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Sugur Chayamachi
Nitro+ CHiRAL
TOGAINU NO CHI™
3

TOKYOPOP®

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Akira and Rin have their doubts about Keisuke's preparedness for the Igura, doubts shared by Keisuke himself after witnessing the horrific aftermath of Takeru's insane killing spree. But when he sees massacred bodies strewn all over, will he be able to endure the brutality that is the lawless Igura? And while old mysteries have yet to be solved, new ones continue to arise. Where did the 50% pure line come from? And what of Akira's past?

OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

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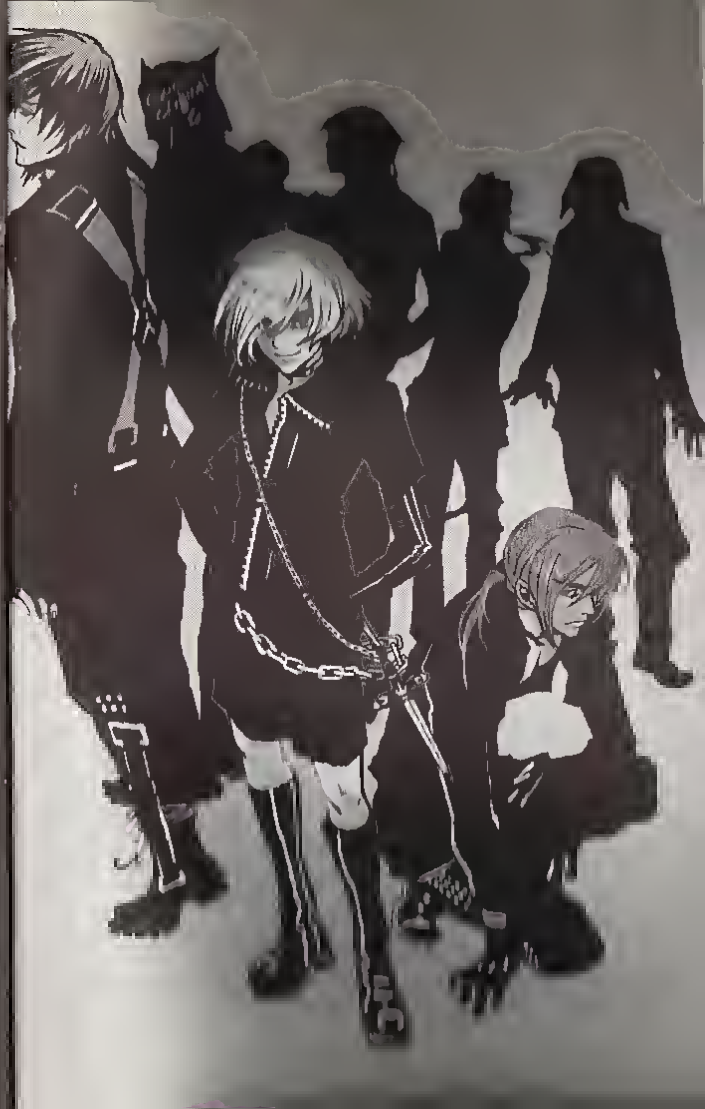
TOGAINU NO CHI™

Volume 3

Suguro Chayamachi
and
Nitro+ CHiRAL



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Suguro Chayamachi and Nitro+CHiRAL

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DogTag:1
IT'S BEEN OVER A MONTH SINCE ANYONE STEPPED UP.
WHO?
FOR REAL?
THEY'RE GONNA CHALLENGE HIM?
THEY PROBABLY GOT THIS FAR BY WORKING TOGETHER.
THEIR LEADER IS TAKING HIM ON.
IT'S A TEAM.
Long time no see.

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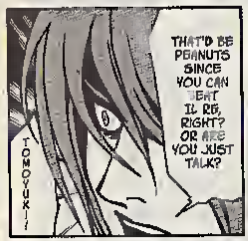
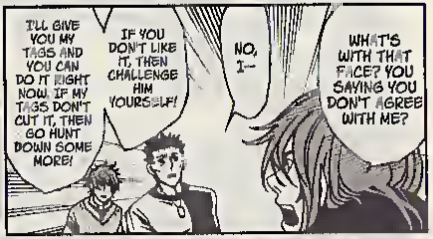
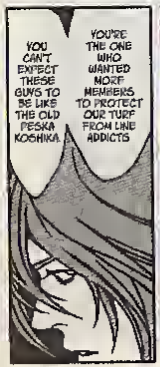
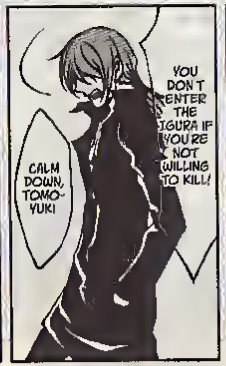
WHO, THE CHALLENGERS?!
UH... I MEAN, DON'T YOU WANNA TAKE THOSE GUYS OUT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WE DON'T NEED TO DO ANYTHING.
SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

I WAS STARTING TO THINK THAT FREAK IN THE MASK WAS TELLING FAIRY TALES
SOMEONE'S REALLY GONNA CHALLENGE THE KING HUH?
YEP. DAY AFTER TOMORROW, ONE P.M... AT THE CASTLE.
HUH... JUST LIKE THE GRAFFITI SAYS.
THE DAY AFTER TOMO-RROW?

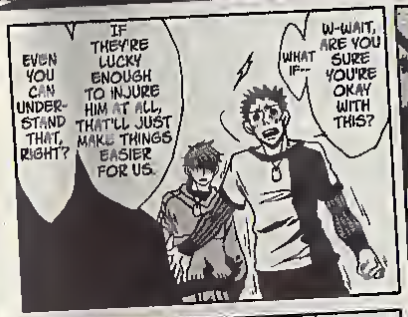

TOMOYUKI
THAT'D BE PEANUTS SINCE YOU CAN BEAT IL RE, RIGHT? OR ARE YOU JUST TALK?

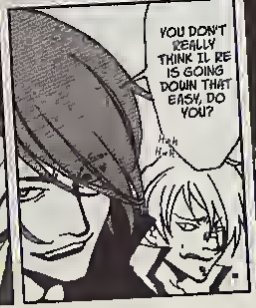

I'LL GIVE YOU MY TAGS AND YOU CAN DO IT RIGHT NOW. IF MY TAGS DON'T CUT IT, THEN GO HUNT DOWN SOME MORE!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, THEN CHALLENGE HIM YOURSELF!
NO, I--
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE? YOU SAYING YOU DON'T AGREE WITH ME?


YOU CAN'T EXPECT THESE GUYS TO BE LIKE THE OLD PESKA KOSHIKA
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED MORE MEMBERS TO PROTECT OUR TURF FROM LINE ADDICTS

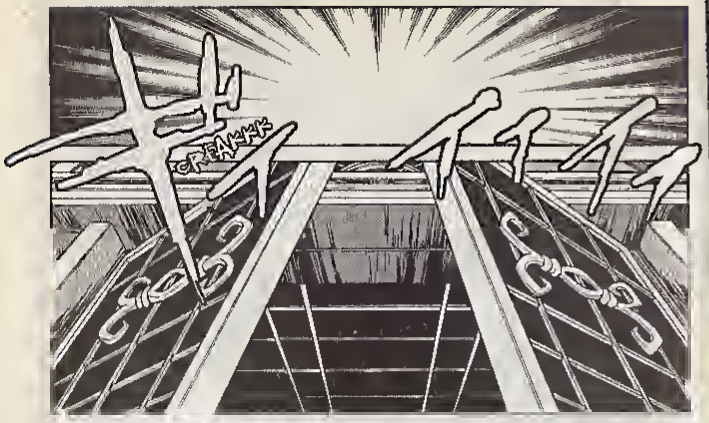

CALM DOWN, TOMO-YUKI
YOU DON'T ENTER THE IGURA IF YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO KILL!

SHUT UP! IF I DON'T SAY SOMETHING NOW, THEY'RE NEVER GONNA STOP RUNNING THEIR MOUTHS.
C'MON, THESE GUYS JUST JOINED SO EASY ON THEM
THESE GUYS ARE AN EM-BARASS-MENT! THEY CAN'T EVEN GUARD ONE GOD-DAMN BARRI-CADE


EVEN YOU CAN UNDER-STAND THAT, RIGHT?
IF THEY'RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO INJURE HIM AT ALL, THAT'LL JUST MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR US.
WHAT IF--
W-WAIT, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY WITH THIS?


YOU DON'T REALLY THINK IL RE IS GOING DOWN THAT EASY, DO YOU?

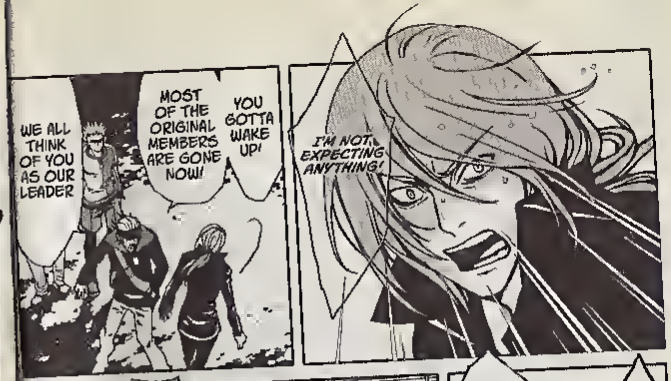
WHAT, ARE YOU STU-PID?


CREAKING

OH!
HE WAS LOOKING KINDA SICK. HE PROBABLY HAD A BATHROOM EMERGENCY.

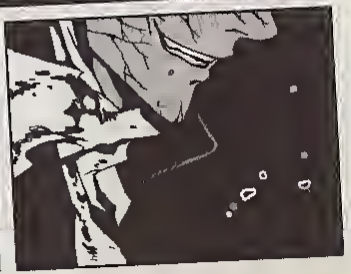
I'M SURE KEISUKE WILL BE OUT LATER.
THE CASTLE RELEASES THEM IN ORDER OF ENTRY.
WHERE DID THE OLD MAN GO?

chomp
chomp

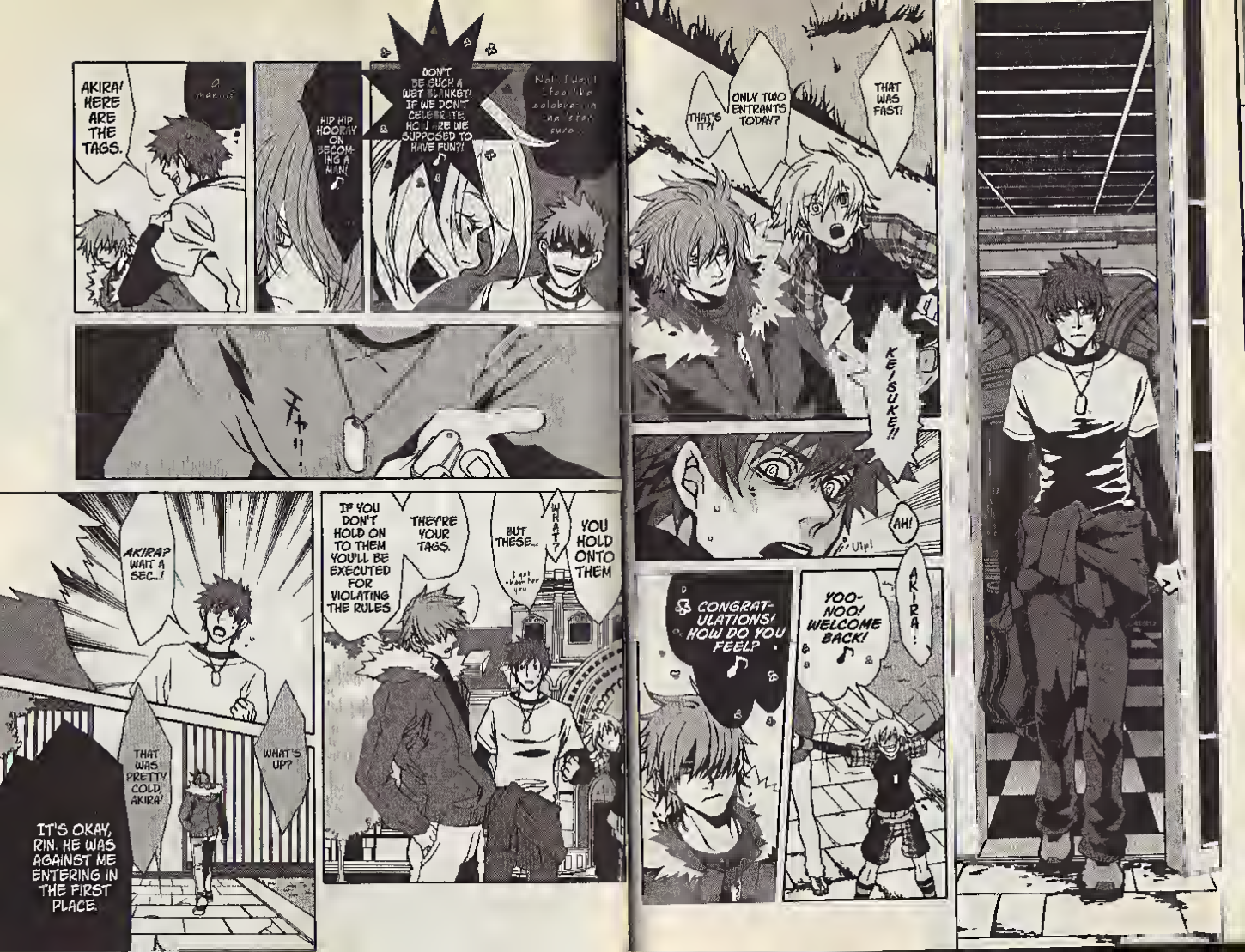

WE ALL THINK OF YOU AS OUR LEADER
MOST OF THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS ARE GONE NOW!
YOU GOTTA WAKE UP!
I'M NOT EXPECTING ANYTHING!

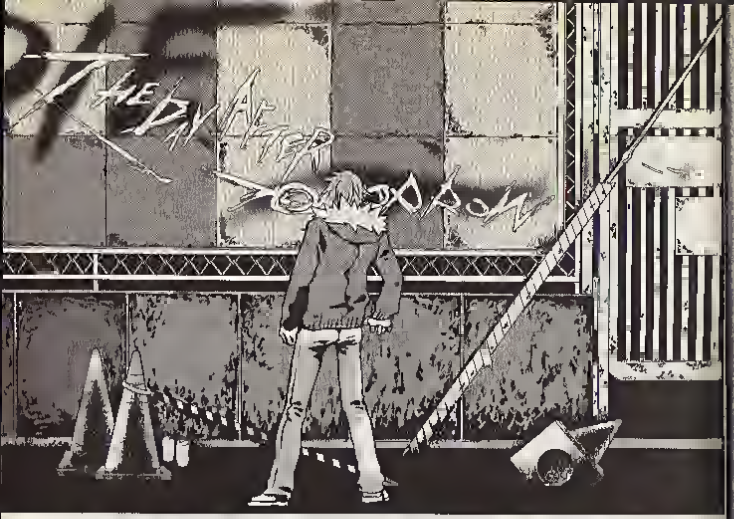
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.
PESKA KOSHIKA, HUH?
YOU'RE ALL USELESS!
TCH!

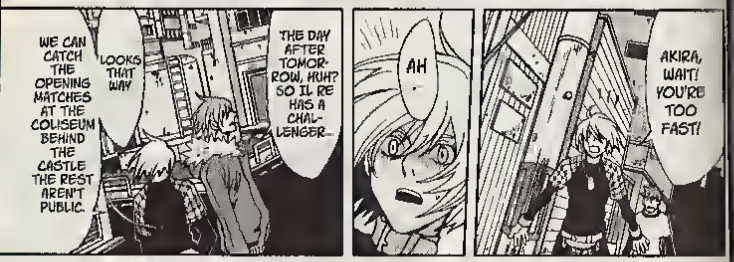
STOMP

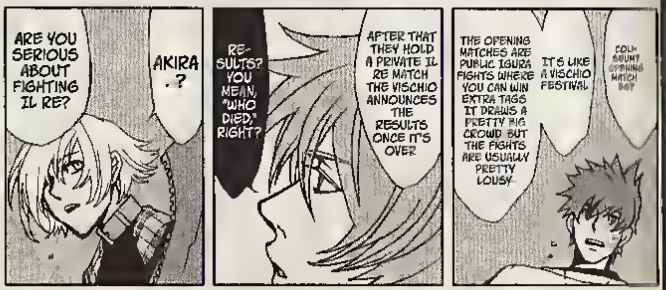


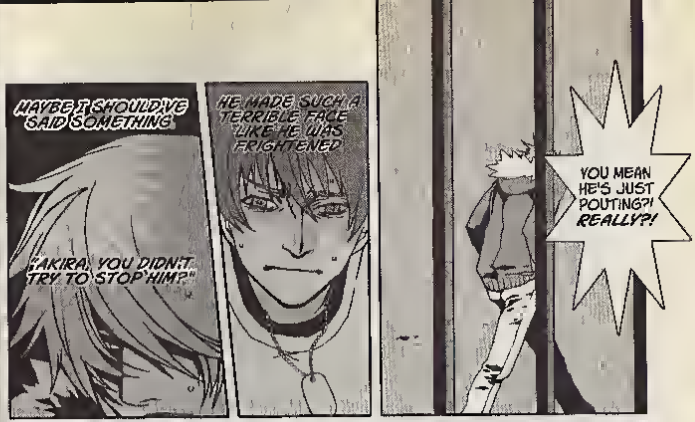
CRUNCH

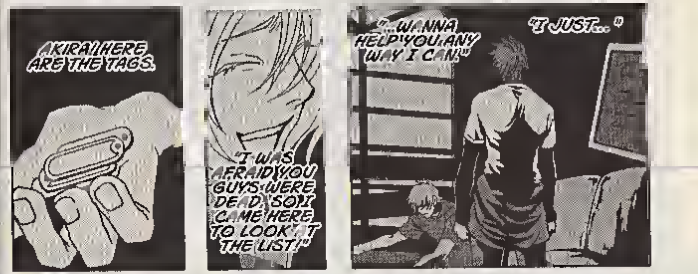

AKIRA! HERE ARE THE TAGS.
HIP HIP HOORAY ON BECOMING A MAN!
DON'T BE SUCH A WET BLANKET! IF WE DON'T CELEBRATE, HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO HAVE FUN?!
Well, I don't feel like celebrating, but let's have some...
THAT'S IT?!
ONLY TWO ENTRANTS TODAY?
THAT WAS FAST!
KEISUKE!!
AH!
Ulp!
CONGRATULATIONS! HOW DO YOU FEEL?
YOO-HOO! WELCOME BACK!
AKIRA!
AKIRA? WAIT A SEC..!
THAT WAS PRETTY COOL, AKIRA!
WHAT'S UP?
IT'S OKAY, RIN. HE WAS AGAINST ME ENTERING IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IF YOU DON'T HOLD ON TO THEM YOU'LL BE EXECUTED FOR VIOLATING THE RULES
THEY'RE YOUR TAGS.
BUT THESE...
I got them for you
WHAT?
YOU HOLD ONTO THEM


THE DAY AFTER

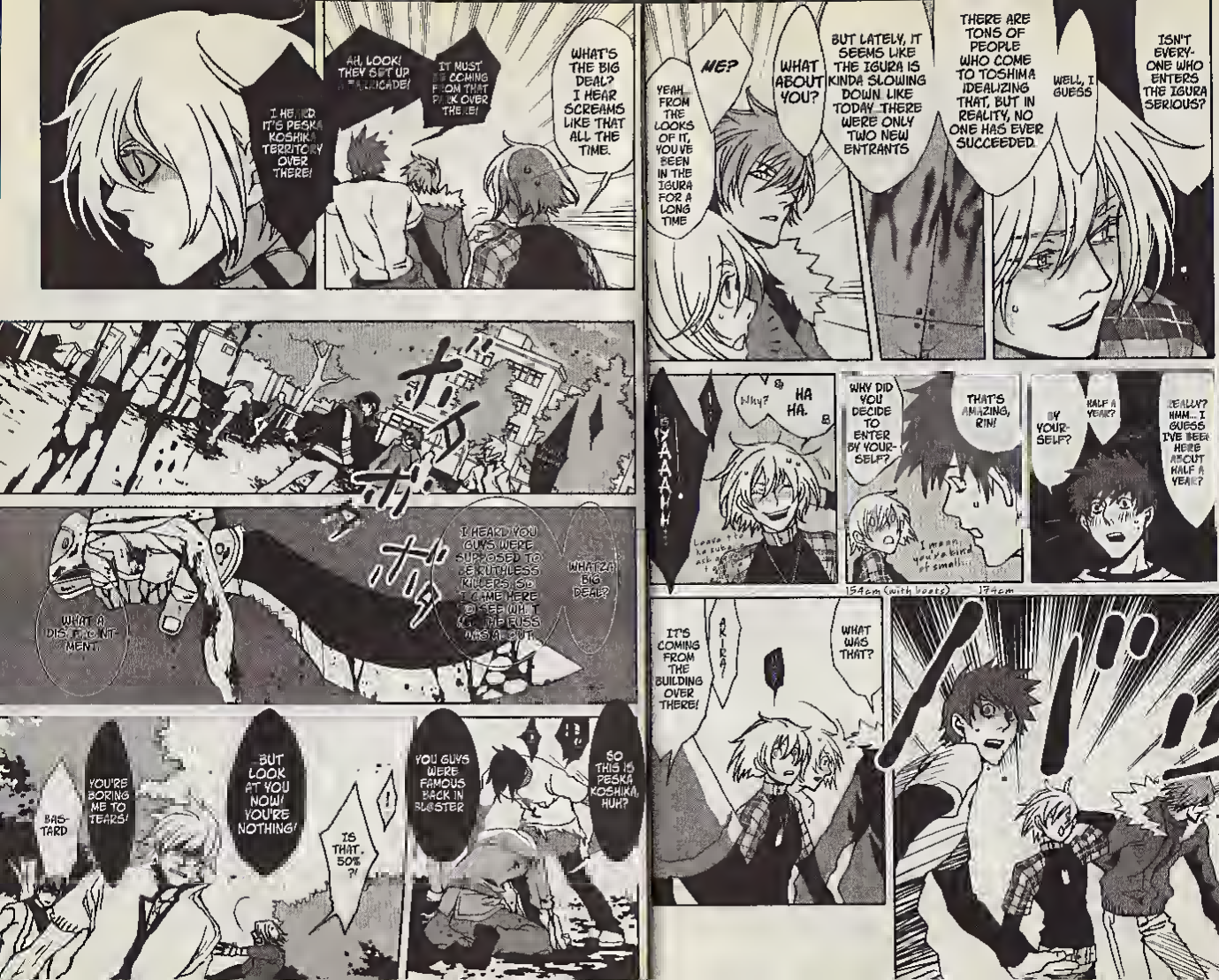

WE CAN CATCH THE OPENING MATCHES AT THE COLISEUM BEHIND THE CASTLE THE REST AREN'T PUBLIC.
LOOKS THAT WAY
THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, HUH? SO IL RE HAS A CHALLENGER...
AH
AKIRA, WAIT! YOU'RE TOO FAST!

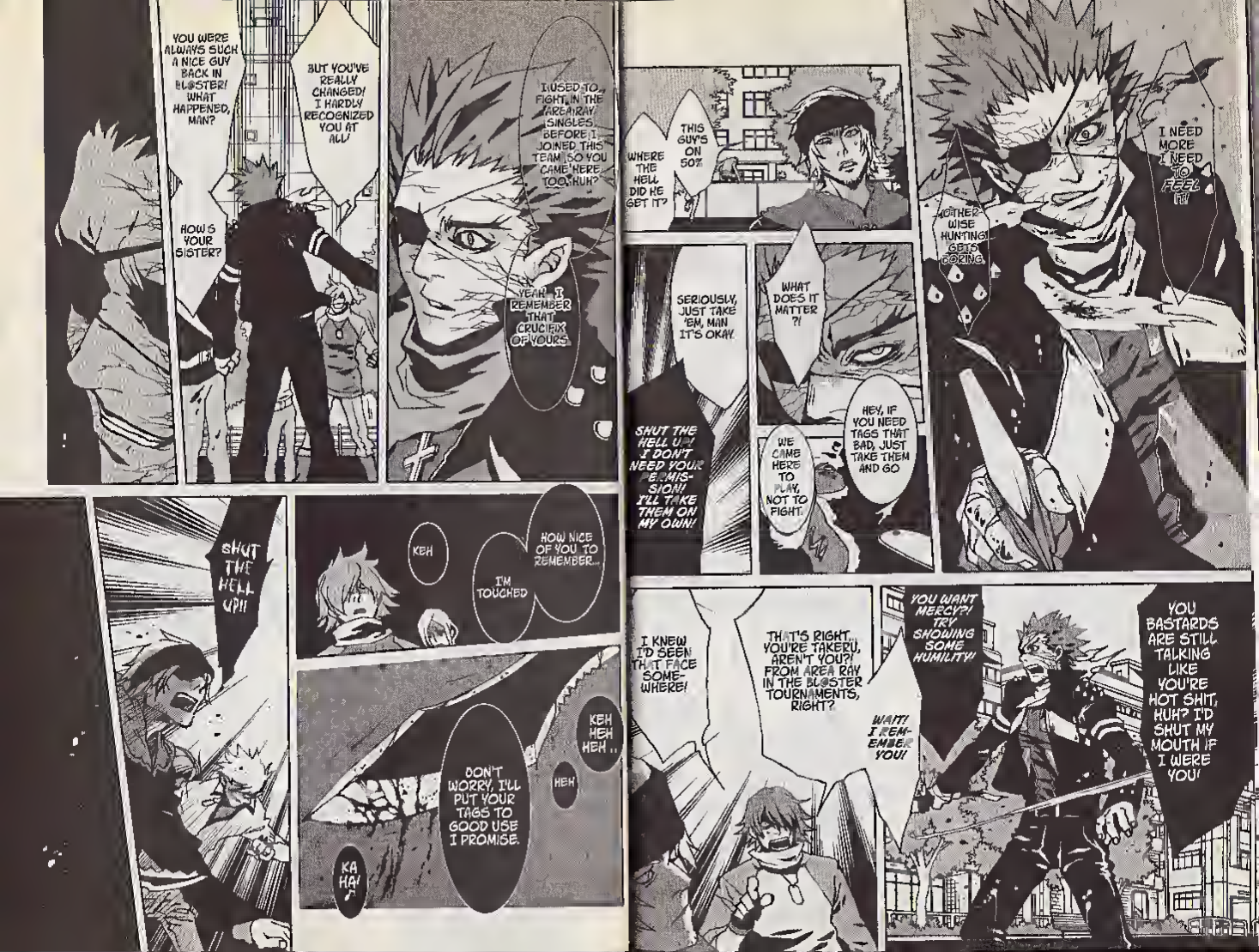

ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT FIGHTING IL RE?
AKIRA...?
RE-SULTS? YOU MEAN, "WHO DIED," RIGHT?
AFTER THAT THEY HOLD A PRIVATE IL RE MATCH THE VISCHIO ANNOUNCES THE RESULTS ONCE IT'S OVER
THE OPENING MATCHES ARE PUBLIC IGURA FIGHTS WHERE YOU CAN WIN EXTRA TAGS IT DRAWS A PRETTY BIG CROWD BUT THE FIGHTS ARE USUALLY PRETTY LOUSY.
IT'S LIKE A VISCHIO FESTIVAL
COLOSSUM OPENING MATCH DAY!

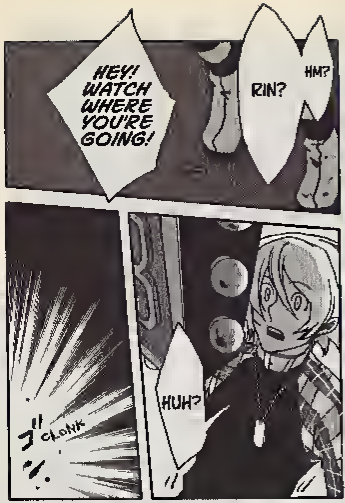

MAYBE I SHOULD'VE SAID SOMETHING.
HE MADE SUCH A TERRIBLE FACE LIKE HE WAS FRIGHTENED.
"AKIRA, YOU DIDN'T TRY TO STOP HIM?"
YOU MEAN HE'S JUST POUTING?! REALLY?!

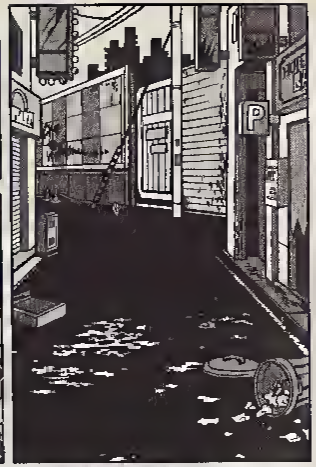

AKIRA! HERE ARE THE TAGS.
"I WAS AFRAID YOU GUYS WERE DEAD, SO I CAME HERE TO LOOK AT THE LIST."
"...WANNA HELP YOU ANY WAY I CAN."
"I JUST..."

DOOSH


I HEARD IT'S PESKA KOSHIKA TERRITORY OVER THERE!
AH, LOOK! THEY SET UP A BARRICADE!
IT MUST BE COMING FROM THAT FUCK OVER THERE!
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? I HEAR SCREAMS LIKE THAT ALL THE TIME.
ME?
YEAH, FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, YOU'VE BEEN IN THE IGURA FOR A LONG TIME
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
BUT LATELY, IT SEEMS LIKE THE IGURA IS KINDA SLOWING DOWN LIKE TODAY. THERE WERE ONLY TWO NEW ENTRANTS
KING
THERE ARE TONS OF PEOPLE WHO COME TO TOSHIMA IDEALIZING THAT, BUT IN REALITY, NO ONE HAS EVER SUCCEEDED.
WELL, I GUESS
ISN'T EVERY-ONE WHO ENTERS THE IGURA SERIOUS?
WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT.
I HEARD YOU GUYS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE RUTHLESS KILLERS, SO I CAME HERE TO SEE WHAT ALL THE FUSS WAS ABOUT.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
YAAAH!
Why?
HA HA.
WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO ENTER BY YOUR-SELF?
THAT'S AMAZING, RIN!
I mean, you're kind of small...
BY YOUR-SELF?
HALF A YEAR?
REALLY? HMM... I GUESS I'VE BEEN HERE ABOUT HALF A YEAR?
154cm (with boots)
174cm
IT'S COMING FROM THE BUILDING OVER THERE!
AKIRA?
WHAT WAS THAT?
BAS-TARD
YOU'RE BORING ME TO TEARS!
...BUT LOOK AT YOU NOW! YOU'RE NOTHING!
IS THAT... 50%?!
YOU GUYS WERE FAMOUS BACK IN BLOSTER
SO THIS IS PESKA KOSHIKA, HUH?

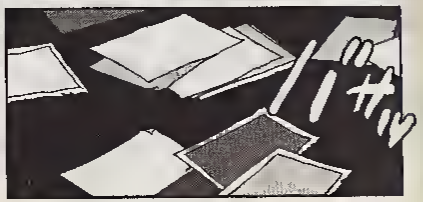

YOU WERE ALWAYS SUCH A NICE GUY BACK IN BLOSTER! WHAT HAPPENED, MAN?
BUT YOU'VE REALLY CHANGED! I HARDLY RECOGNIZED YOU AT ALL!
HOW'S YOUR SISTER?
I USED TO FIGHT IN THE AREA RAY SINGLES BEFORE I JOINED THIS TEAM. SO YOU CAME HERE TOO, HUH?
YEAH, I REMEMBER THAT CRUCIFIX OF YOURS.
WHERE THE HELL DID HE GET IT?
THIS GUY'S ON 50%
I NEED MORE I NEED TO FEEL IT!
OTHERWISE HUNTING GETS BORING.
SERIOUSLY, JUST TAKE 'EM, MAN IT'S OKAY.
WHAT DOES IT MATTER ?!
SHUT THE HELL UP! I DON'T NEED YOUR COMPASSION! I'LL TAKE THEM ON MY OWN!
HEY, IF YOU NEED TAGS THAT BAD, JUST TAKE THEM AND GO
WE CAME HERE TO PLAY, NOT TO FIGHT.
SHUT THE HELL UP!!
KEH
HOW NICE OF YOU TO REMEMBER...
I'M TOUCHED
KEH HEH HEH..
HEH
DON'T WORRY, I'LL PUT YOUR TAGS TO GOOD USE I PROMISE.
KA HA!
I KNEW I'D SEEN THAT FACE SOMEWHERE!
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE TAKERU, AREN'T YOU?! FROM AREA RAY IN THE BLOSTER TOURNAMENTS, RIGHT?
WAIT! I REMEMBER YOU!
YOU WANT MERCY?! TRY SHOWING SOME HUMILITY!
YOU BASTARDS ARE STILL TALKING LIKE YOU'RE HOT SHIT, HUH? I'D SHUT MY MOUTH IF I WERE YOU!

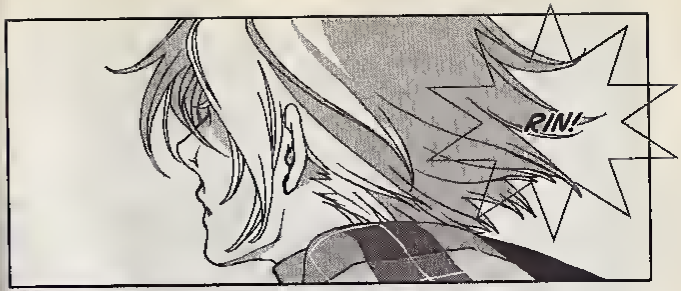

HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
RIN?
HM?
GONK
HUH?


P

OH, WOW! ARE ALL OF THESE RESEARCH PHOTOS?

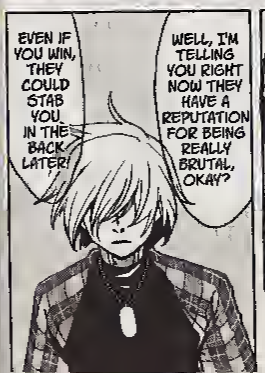
RIN!!
ARE YOU OKAY?
I TRIED TO WARN YOU
OKAY!

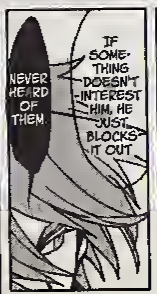


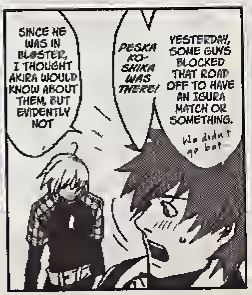

RIN!

THE DAY
UH, RIGHT.

IT'S DANGEROUS!
OVER HERE! YOU SHOULDN'T GO THAT WAY!


EVEN IF YOU WIN, THEY COULD STAB YOU IN THE BACK LATER!
WELL, I'M TELLING YOU RIGHT NOW THEY HAVE A REPUTATION FOR BEING REALLY BRUTAL, OKAY?

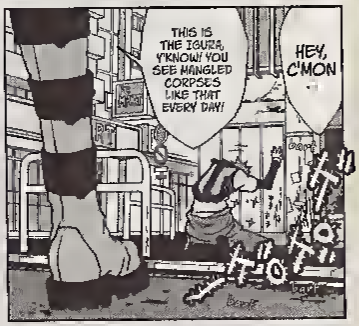

NEVER HEARD OF THEM.
IF SOMETHING DOESN'T INTEREST HIM, HE JUST BLOCKS IT OUT


SINCE HE WAS IN BLOSTER, I THOUGHT AKIRA WOULD KNOW ABOUT THEM, BUT EVIDENTLY NOT
PESKA KOSHKA WAS THERE!
YESTERDAY, SOME GUYS BLOCKED THAT ROAD OFF TO HAVE AN IGURA MATCH OR SOMETHING.
We didn't go but

YOU CAN'T MAKE OUT HIS FACE...BUT SOMEHOW, HE REMINDS ME OF SOMEONE.

THAT PHOTO OF SHIKI...

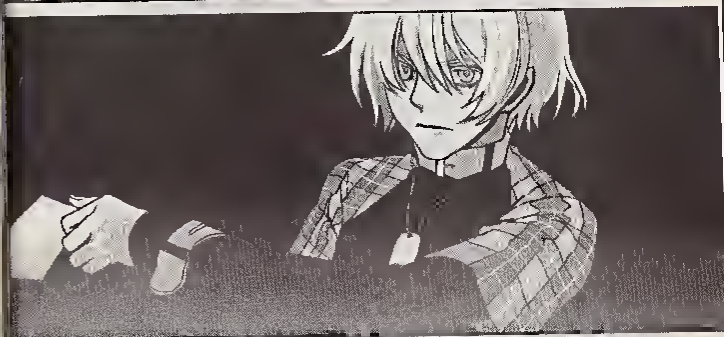
CAUTION: GROTESQUE

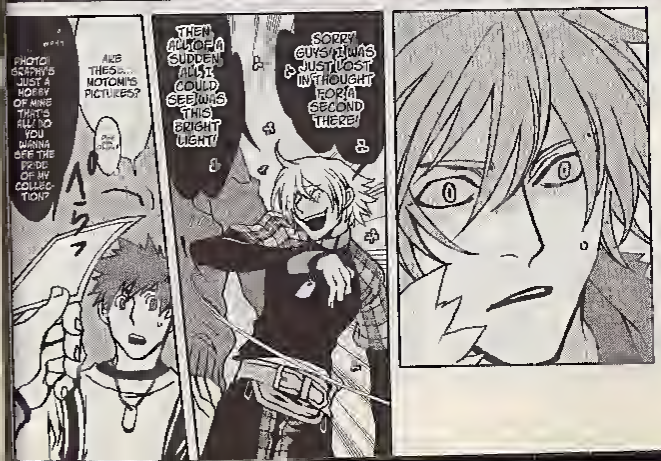

THIS IS THE IZUMA, Y'KNOW! YOU SEE MANGLED CORPSES LIKE THAT EVERY DAY!
HEY, C'MON

IT'S JUST A LITTLE BLOOD, OKAY? MAYBE YOU'RE NOT CUT OUT FOR THIS AFTER ALL.
C'MON KEISUKE, YOU'RE NEVER GONNA GET ANY TAGS IF YOU ACT LIKE THAT

Tokie

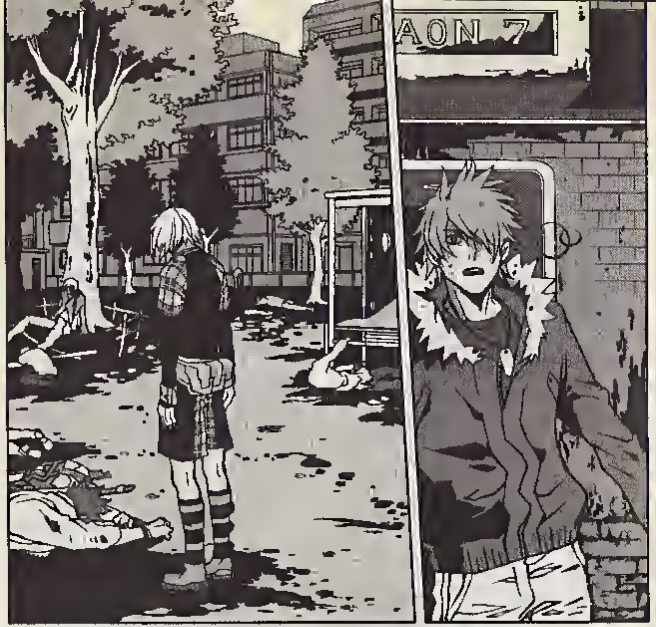
SNATCH!

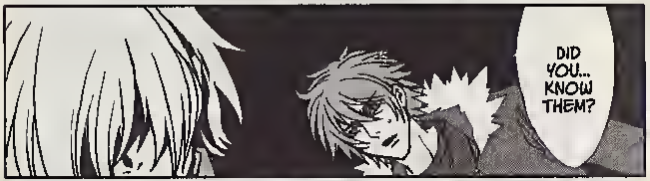


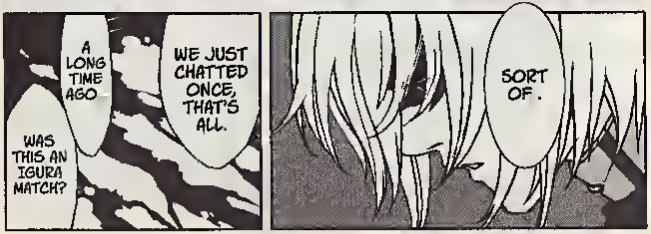

PHOTOGRAPHY'S JUST A HOBBY OF MINE THAT'S ALL! SO YOU WANNA SEE THE PRIDE OF MY COLLECTION?
AHH THESE... MOTOMI'S PICTURES?
THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN, ALL I COULD SEE WAS THIS BRIGHT LIGHT!
SORRY GUYS, IT WAS JUST LOST IN THOUGHT FOR A SECOND THERE!

24H
CAFE PLANET
HE'S STILL GOT HIS TAGS ON!
AN ENTRANT?
BUT WHERE'S HIS OPPONENT?
OR WAS TOUGH, I SHOULD SAY. TOO BAD.
HA!
TOUGH GUY! ♪
YOU MEAN HE RAN ALL THE WAY HERE WITH THOSE INJURIES?
CAFE PLANET
DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYONE ELSE AROUND.
TOKYU HANDS

REMEMBER? WE SAW HIM STANDING NEXT TO THE BARRICADE.
HE MUST BE FROM THAT TEAM...
I RECOGNIZE HIS GREEN CARGO PANTS AND BLACK SHIRT
NO, I'M SURE OF IT!
W-WAIT... AKIRA... WE MET THIS GUY YESTERDAY, DIDN'T WE?
PESKA KOSHIKA!
RIN?!
huff
huff
huff
huff

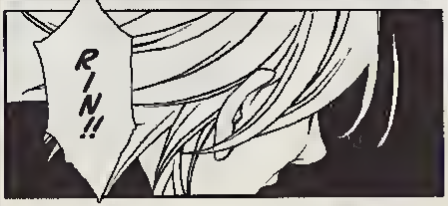

AON 7


DID YOU... KNOW THEM?

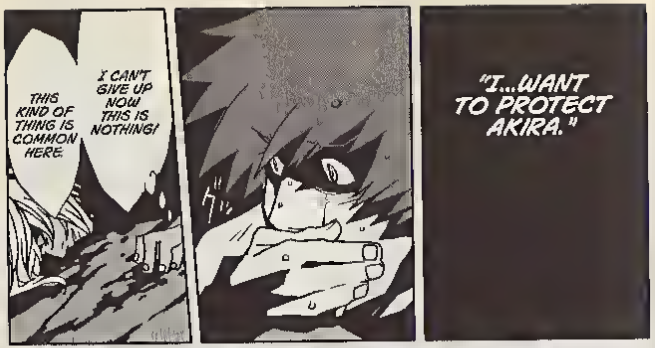

WAS THIS AN IGURA MATCH?
A LONG TIME AGO
WE JUST CHATTED ONCE, THAT'S ALL.
SORT OF.

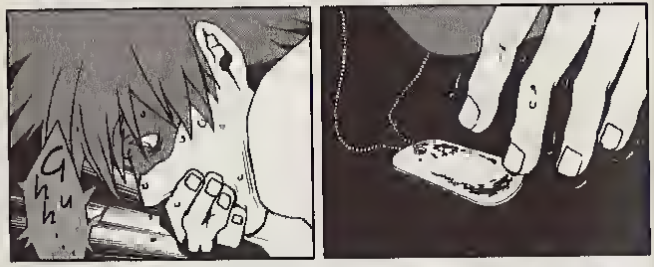
KOJ...

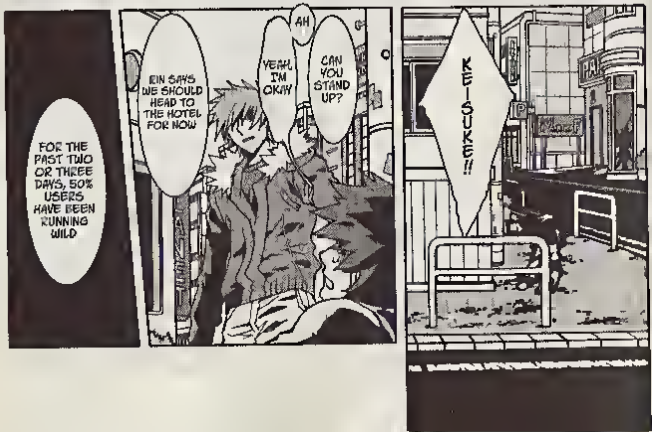
RYU...


RIN!!

AH...

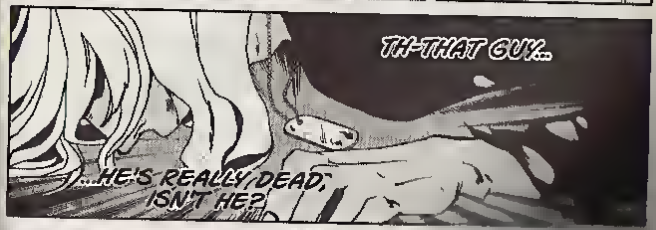

THIS KIND OF THING IS COMMON HERE.
I CAN'T GIVE UP NOW! THIS IS NOTHING!
"I...WANT TO PROTECT AKIRA."

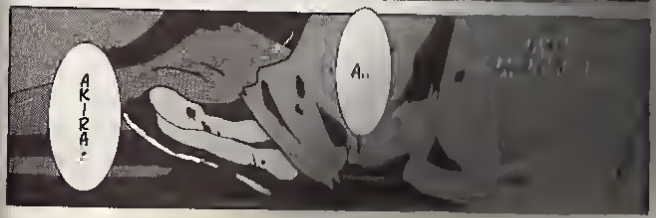

Gnh.

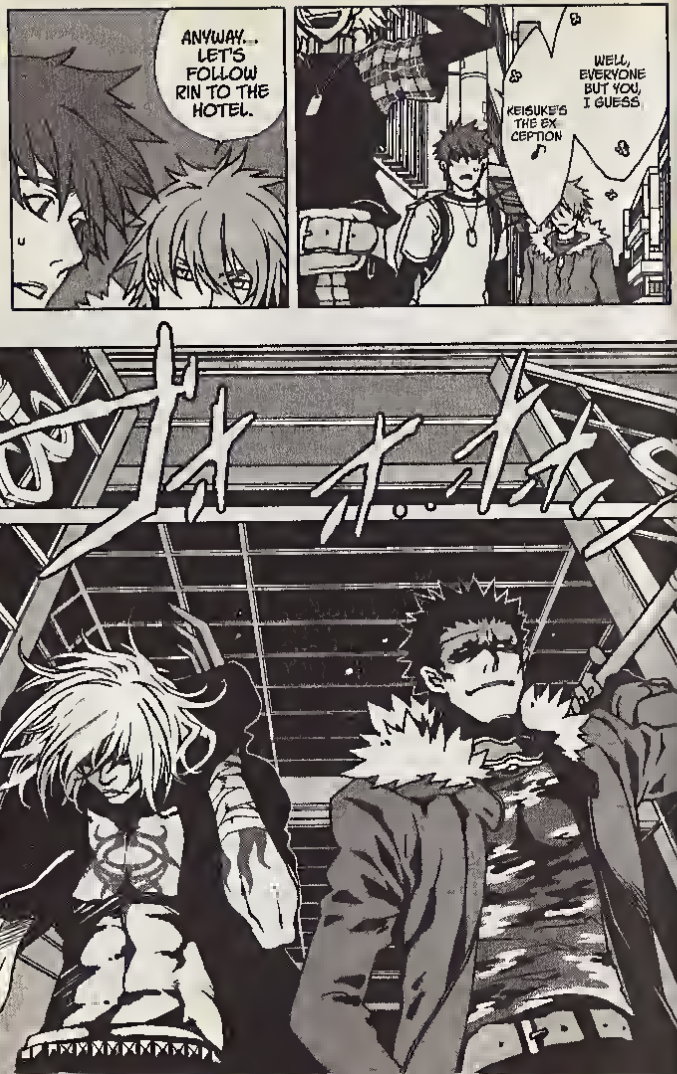

FOR THE PAST TWO OR THREE DAYS, 50% USERS HAVE BEEN RUNNING WILD
EIN SAYS WE SHOULD HEAD TO THE HOTEL FOR NOW
AH
YEAH, I'M OKAY
CAN YOU STAND UP?
KEISUKE!!

WHO KNOWS? PROBABLY NOT.

AH...

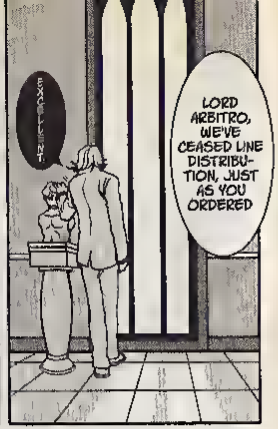

TH-THAT GUY...
...HE'S REALLY DEAD, ISN'T HE?


AKIRA!
A...

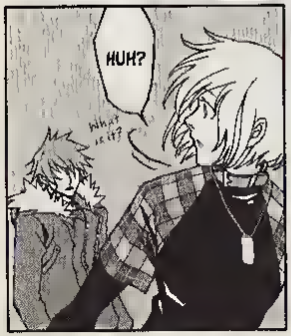

ANYWAY... LET'S FOLLOW RIN TO THE HOTEL.
WELL, EVERYONE BUT YOU, I GUESS.
KEISUKE'S THE EXCEPTION
ゴオオオ

THEY'RE JUST KILLING PEOPLE INDISCRIMINATELY.
HUH? THESE AREN'T IGURA MATCHES?
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE IGURA. IT'S JUST A BUNCH OF ADDICTS BREAKING THE RULES.
THERE'S NO WAY THE VISCHIO IS DISTRIBUTING SOMETHING THAT POTENT. IT'S THROWING THE TOWN INTO CHAOS AND CAUSING A TON OF CASUALTIES.
AND THE 50%...?
RIN SAYS IF WE ASK AN INFORMATION DEALER WE CAN FIND A SAFER PLACE TO STAY.
WE CAN PROBABLY GATHER SOME INFORMATION AT THE HOTEL.
HEY KEISUKE
WHAT ARE THEY THINKING?!
AREN'T THERE ENOUGH PEOPLE DYING ALREADY?
TH-THEY'RE JUST KILLING EACH OTHER? THAT'S MURDER! WHY WOULD THEY DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT? WHAT'S THE POINT?
SMILE
WHAT?!
LIKE... "I WISH THEY WERE DEAD"

FINE. THEN LET THEM SUFFER.
HMPH. SO THOSE FOOLS HAVE THE GALL TO MOCK ME, DO THEY?
YES, SIR.
NO MATTER HOW THEY CRY, YOU ARE NOT TO MOVE AN OUNCE OF IT. UNDERSTAND?

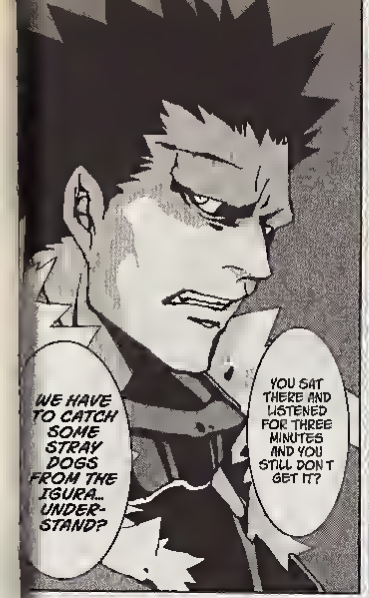

LORD ARBITRO, WE'VE CEASED LINE DISTRIBUTION, JUST AS YOU ORDERED

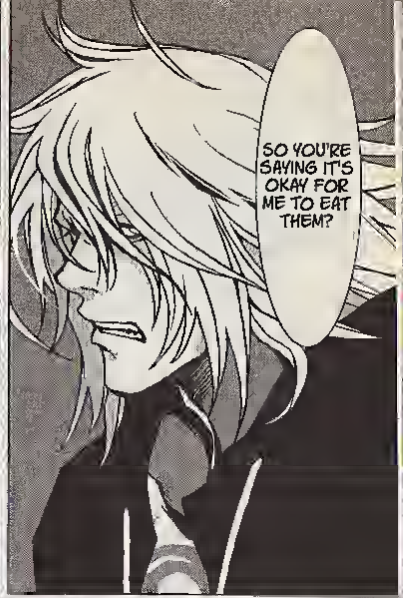
ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO DIED, I MEAN
BUT TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT TOO MUCH, OKAY?
RIGHT.
ANYWAY, I'LL GO SCROUNGE UP SOME SUPPLIES AT THE HOTEL. YOU GUYS WAIT HERE
IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, YOU CAN'T HOLD A GRUDGE, YOU KNOW? THINGS ARE COMPLICATED ENOUGH AS IS.


HUH?
What is it?

RIN, WAIT!
I'LL GO LOOK FOR STUFF OVER THERE

IF YOU GET WRAPPED UP IN THAT KIND OF THING, YOU'LL JUST END UP LIKE THEM
TRY TO FORGET ABOUT IT. IT'S SAFER THAT WAY

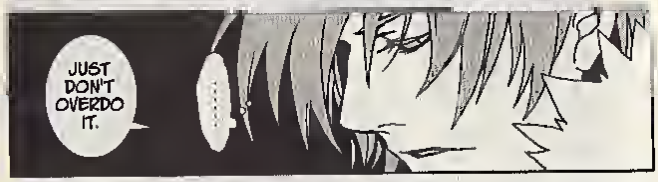

WE HAVE TO CATCH SOME STRAY DOGS FROM THE IGURA... UNDERSTAND?
YOU SAT THERE AND LISTENED FOR THREE MINUTES AND YOU STILL DON'T GET IT?


SO YOU'RE SAYING IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO EAT THEM?

SO DON'T TEAR THEM UP TOO MUCH
YEAH, BUT HMMM, BITRO GUYS BALANCE IS IMPORTANT TOO.
BUT PAPA BITRO LIKES THEM BETTER ALL RAGGEDY, DOESN'T HE?
HUH??
NO, IT MEANS WE HAND THEM OVER TO BITRO.
BY "CATCH" YOU MEAN "EAT," RIGHT?
JUST YOU AND MITSUKO TODAY, HUH?
YOU'RE AWFULLY ENTHUSIASTIC, GEEZER BRO. IT'S KINDA GROSS
BORING, HUH? THEN LEAVE THE COLECTING UP TO ME
BORING!
EMIKE

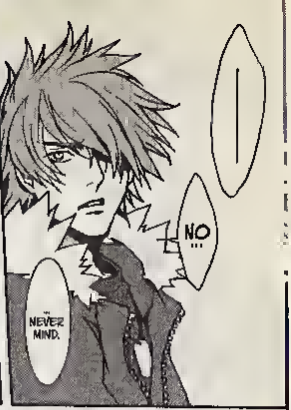
THAT'S MY THOUGHT, AT LEAST.

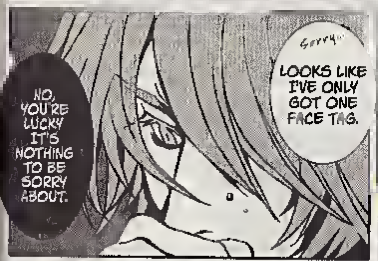
AKIRA...
LET'S BOTH DO OUR BEST, OKAY?
BECAUSE WHEN YOU LOSE... IT'S ALL OVER.

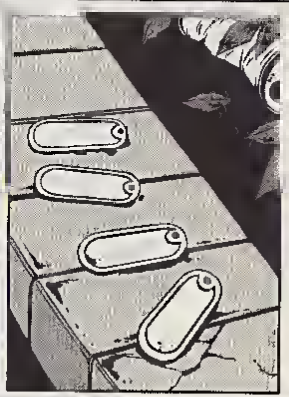

JUST DON'T OVERDO IT.

IS SOMETHING GOING ON WITH RIN?
IT'S NOTHING.

LET'S CHECK OUT THE SHRUBS AROUND BACK
AH, KAY
Ash

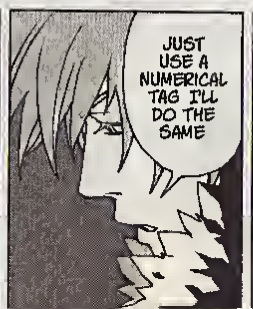

NO...
...NEVER MIND.


Sorry...
LOOKS LIKE I'VE ONLY GOT ONE FACE TAG.
NO, YOU'RE LUCKY IT'S NOTHING TO BE SORRY ABOUT.

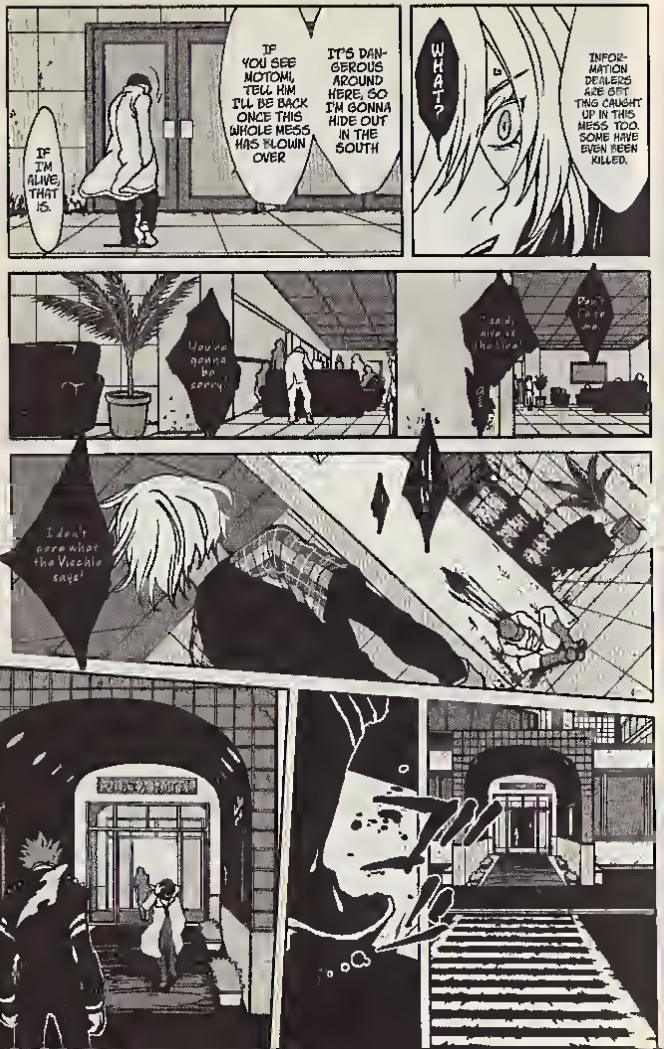


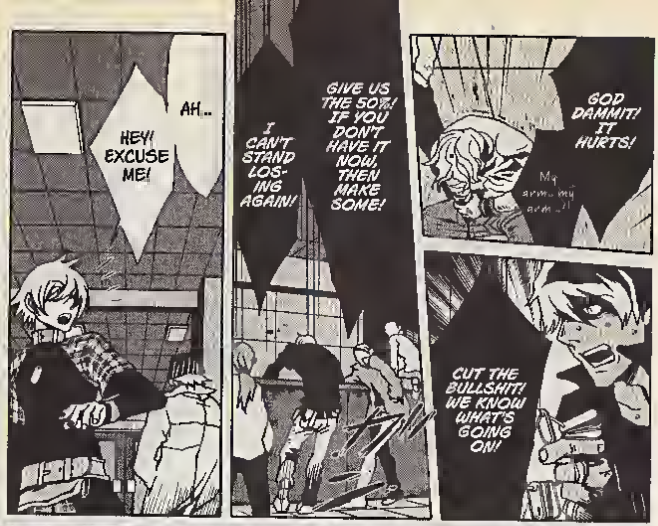
REALLY?! THAT'S GREAT!
FACE TAGS ARE REALLY RARE THEY SAY YOU DON'T RUN INTO THEM VERY OFTEN

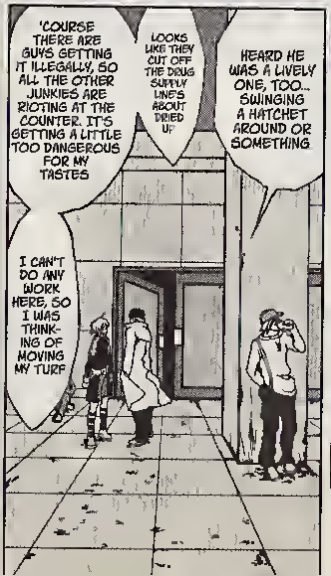
IN THE END, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT TAG YOU WEAR.

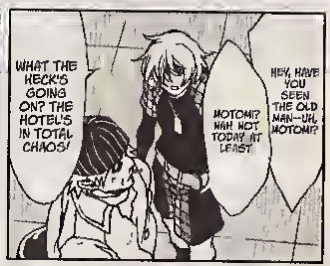

JUST USE A NUMERICAL TAG I'LL DO THE SAME

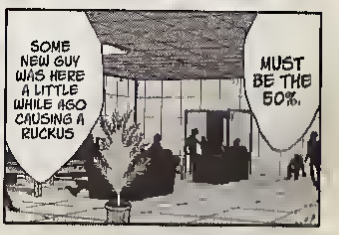
I WAS WONDERING WHICH ONE I SHOULD WEAR. MAYBE THE FACE TAG?
NO!


IF I'M ALIVE, THAT IS.
IF YOU SEE MOTOMI, TELL HIM I'LL BE BACK ONCE THIS WHOLE MESS HAS BLOWN OVER
IT'S DANGEROUS AROUND HERE, SO I'M GONNA HIDE OUT IN THE SOUTH
WHAT?
INFORMATION DEALERS ARE GETTING CAUGHT UP IN THIS MESS TOO. SOME HAVE EVEN BEEN KILLED.
You're gonna be sorry
Don't care me
I don't care what the Visckie says!


HEY! EXCUSE ME!
AH..
I CAN'T STAND LOSING AGAIN!
GIVE US THE 50%! IF YOU DON'T HAVE IT NOW, THEN MAKE SOME!
GOD DAMMIT! IT HURTS!
CUT THE BULLSHIT! WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!


'COURSE THERE ARE GUYS GETTING IT ILLEGALLY, SO ALL THE OTHER JUNKIES ARE RIOTING AT THE COUNTER. IT'S GETTING A LITTLE TOO DANGEROUS FOR MY TASTES
LOOKS LIKE THEY CUT OFF THE DRUG SUPPLY LINES ABOUT THIRD U:
HEARD HE WAS A LIVELY ONE, TOO... SWINGING A HATCHET AROUND OR SOMETHING
I CAN'T DO ANY WORK HERE, SO I WAS THINKING OF MOVING MY TURF


WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON? THE HOTEL'S IN TOTAL CHAOS!
MOTOMI? NAH, NOT TODAY AT LEAST
HEY, HAVE YOU SEEN THE OLD MAN--UH, MOTOMI?


SOME NEW GUY WAS HERE A LITTLE WHILE AGO CAUSING A RUCKUS
MUST BE THE 50%.

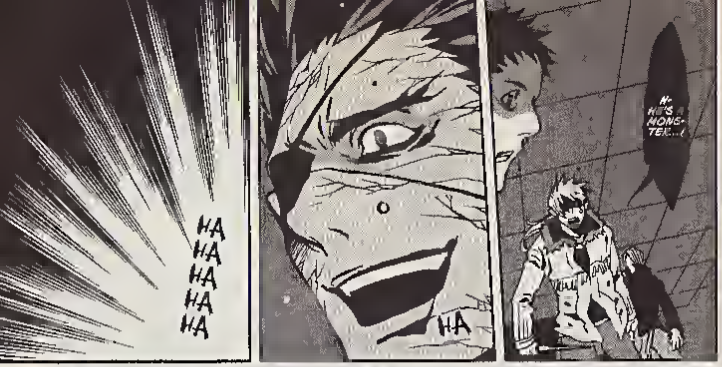
Whoa!!

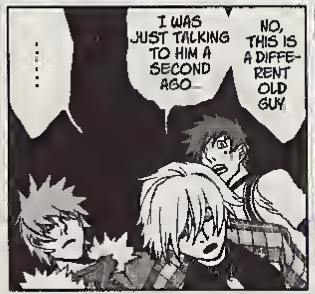
IT'S LIKE THE WHOLE IGURA IS KIND OF DOING BAD RIGHT NOW
BAD? HOW?
HOW CAN I PUT THIS?
SO HE WASN'T THERE...
FUNNY YOU SHOULD ASK...
WAS MOTOMI AT THE HOTEL?
Wait, what's wrong with my hair again??

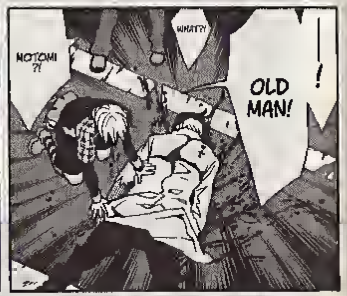
YOU HAVE TWO HAIR WHORLS DON'T YOU KEISUKE?
I saw from up there
Run!
D-DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!

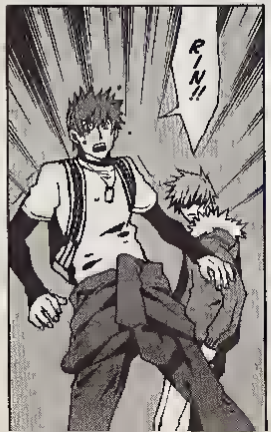
?!
YOU SON OF A BITCH!!
AAH!
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO MOTOMI--

CLOMP
CLOMP
CLOMP


HA HA HA HA HA
HA
HE HE'S A MONSTER...!

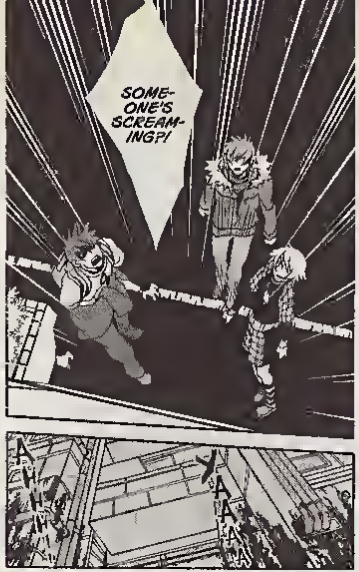

I WAS JUST TALKING TO HIM A SECOND AGO—
NO, THIS IS A DIFFERENT OLD GUY.
.....

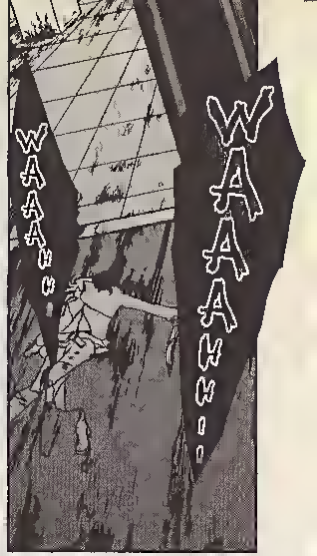

WHAT?!
NOTOMI ?!
OLD MAN!
!


RIN!!

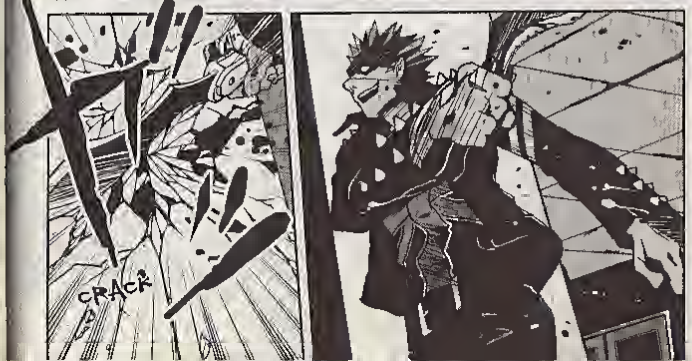
.....

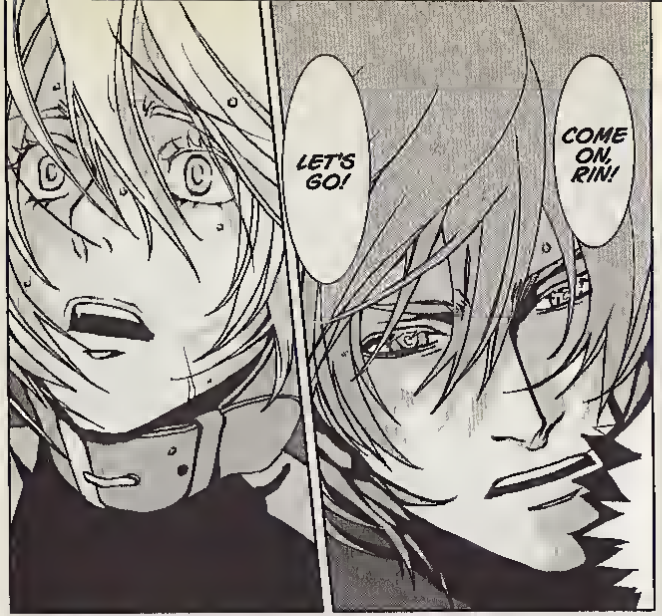
LET'S MOVE. IF WE STAY HERE, WE MIGHT GET DRAGGED IN
RIN ...


SOMEONE'S SCREAMING?!
AHHH
AAAHH

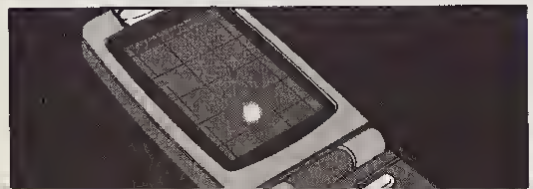

WAAAHH!!
WAAAHH

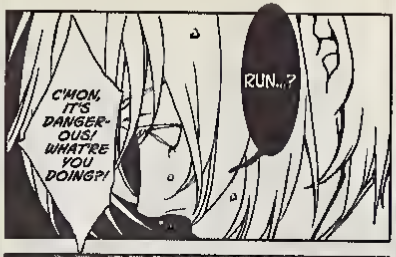
CLOMP
CLOMP
CLOMP
RUN AWAY!
AH HA HA HA! THAT'S RIGHT- RUN!

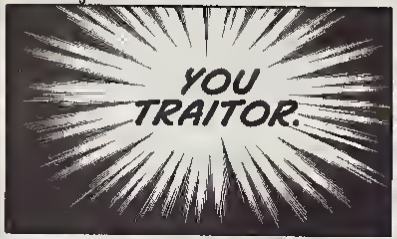

CRACK


LET'S GO!
COME ON, RIN!

KAZUI...

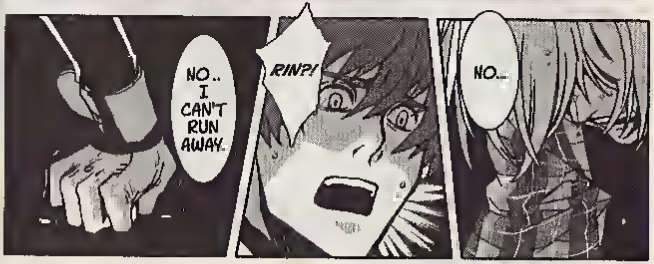



C'MON, IT'S DANGER-OUS! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
RUN...?

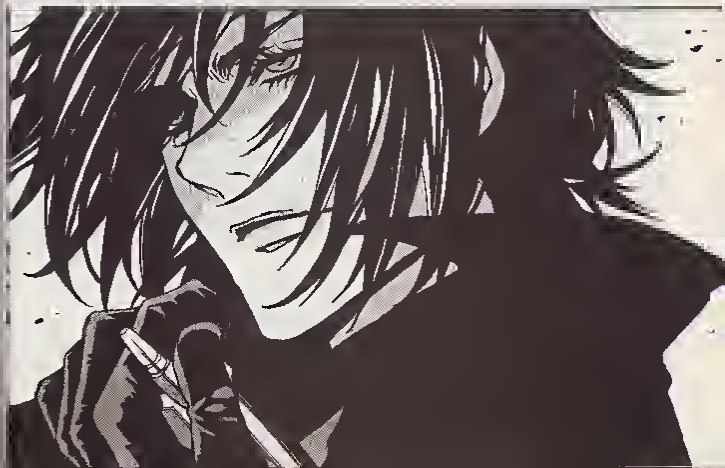

YOU TRAITOR.

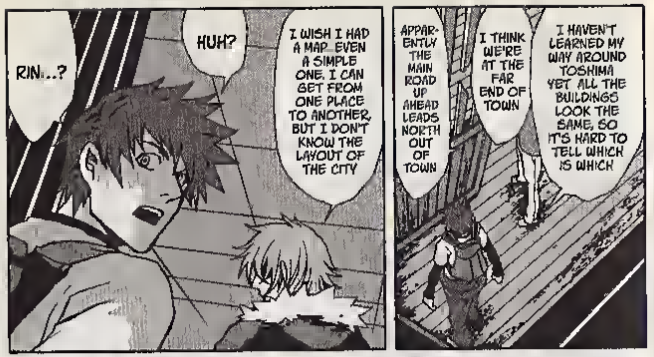
C'MON! WE GOTTA RUN!
RIN?!

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO SURVIVED.
OUR TEAM WAS DESTROYED.


NO.. I CAN'T RUN AWAY.
RIN?!
NO...

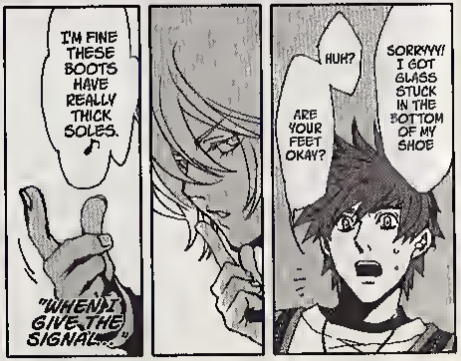
Dog Tag: 2



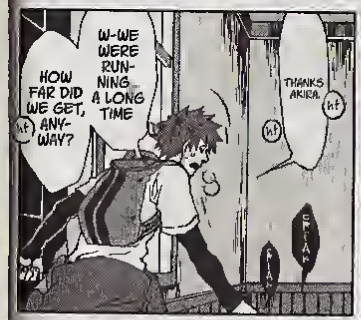

RIN...?
HUH?
I WISH I HAD A MAP. EVEN A SIMPLE ONE. I CAN GET FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, BUT I DON'T KNOW THE LAYOUT OF THE CITY
APPARENTLY THE MAIN ROAD UP AHEAD LEADS NORTH OUT OF TOWN
I THINK WE'RE AT THE FAR END OF TOWN
I HAVEN'T LEARNED MY WAY AROUND TOSHIMA YET. ALL THE BUILDINGS LOOK THE SAME, SO IT'S HARD TO TELL WHICH IS WHICH

HEY, YOU MADE IT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HURRY UP AND COME INSIDE!

"...RUN TO THE BACK."


I'M FINE THESE BOOTS HAVE REALLY THICK SOLES. ♪
"WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL..."
HUH?
ARE YOUR FEET OKAY?
SORRYYY! I GOT GLASS STUCK IN THE BOTTOM OF MY SHOE

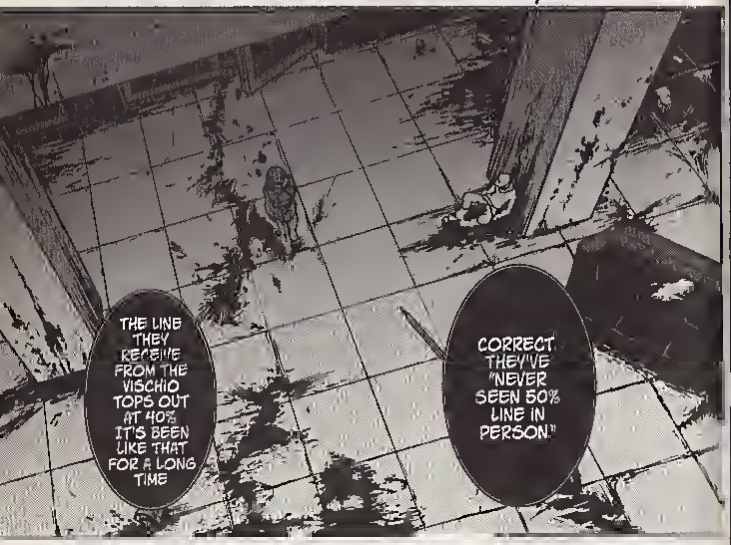
IT'S SAFE. YOU CAN COME IN.

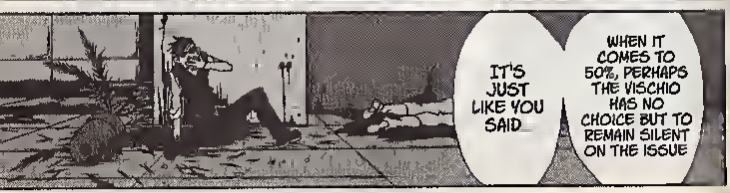

HOW FAR DID WE GET, ANYWAY?
W-WE WERE RUNNING A LONG TIME
THANKS AKIRA
HF
HF
HF

WE'RE PROBABLY ABOUT TWO KILOMETERS FROM THE HOTEL. WE CAN'T BREATHE EASY YET.

RUN!!
ARGH!
BREAK THROUGH THE WINDOW IN THE BACK! GET OUT OF HERE! HURRY!
RI...
RIN!
THIS WAY!
WE GOTTA GET MOVING! FOLLOW ME!

YES, THAT'S WHAT ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED ARE CLAIMING.


THE LINE THEY RECEIVE FROM THE VISCHIO TOPS OUT AT 40% IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT FOR A LONG TIME
CORRECT THEY'VE "NEVER SEEN 50% LINE IN PERSON."

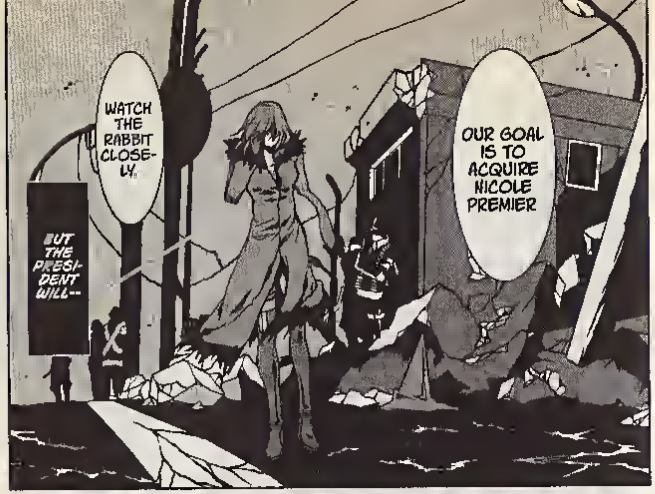

IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID...
WHEN IT COMES TO 50%, PERHAPS THE VISCHIO HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO REMAIN SILENT ON THE ISSUE

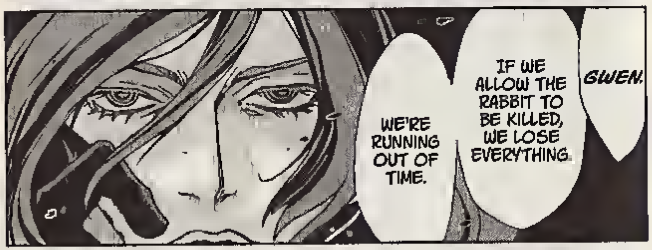
SALTY! ☆
FEELS ... GOOD?!
GYA HA HA HA!

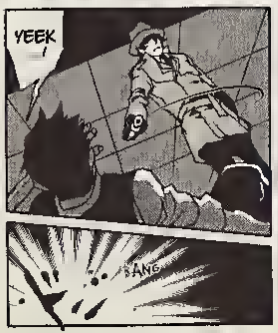
HE'S ON LINE
HERE IT COMES. HERE IT COMES!

GYA HA HA HA!

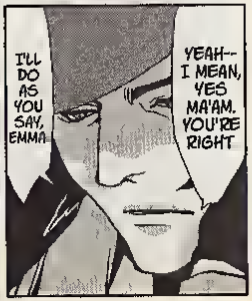
THAT HUUUURT!

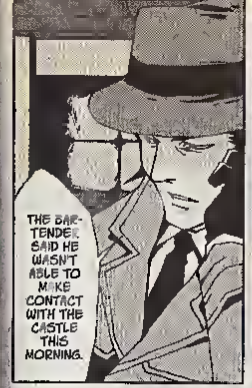

WATCH THE RABBIT CLOSE-LY.
OUR GOAL IS TO ACQUIRE NICOLE PREMIER
BUT THE PRESI-DENT WILL--

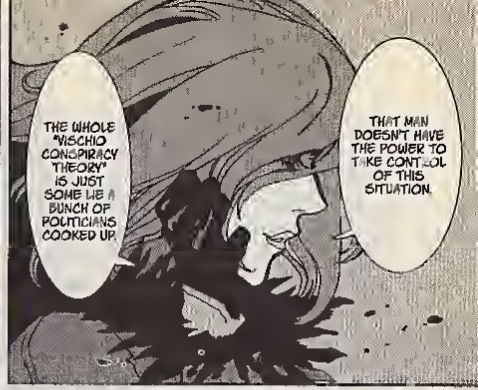

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
IF WE ALLOW THE RABBIT TO BE KILLED, WE LOSE EVERYTHING.
GWEN.

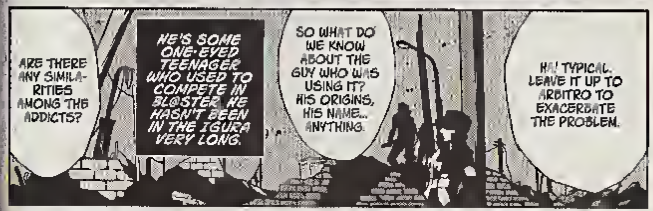

YEEK!
BANG

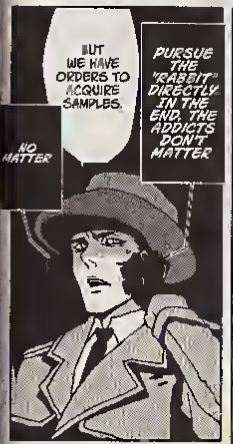
BEEP


I'LL DO AS YOU SAY, EMMA.
YEAH-- I MEAN, YES MA'AM. YOU'RE RIGHT

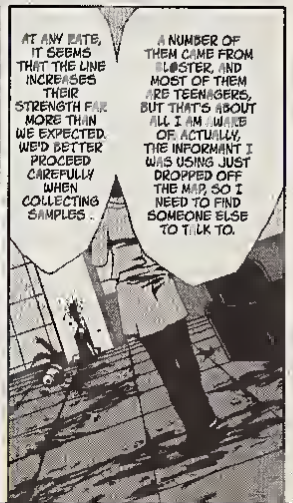

THE BAR-TENDER SAID HE WASN'T ABLE TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE CASTLE THIS MORNING.

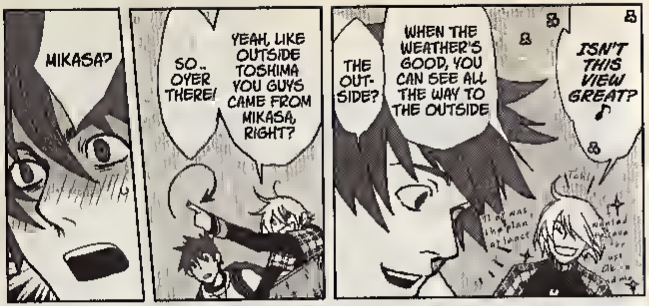

THE WHOLE "VISCHIO CONSPIRACY THEORY" IS JUST SOME LIE A BUNCH OF POLITICIANS COOKED UP.
THAT MAN DOESN'T HAVE THE POWER TO TAKE CONTROL OF THIS SITUATION.

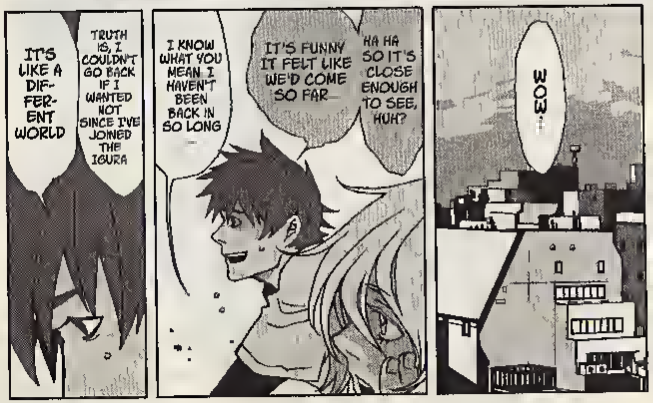

ARE THERE ANY SIMILA-RITIES AMONG THE ADDICTS?
HE'S SOME ONE-EYED TEENAGER WHO USED TO COMPETE IN SL@STER. HE HASN'T BEEN IN THE IGURA VERY LONG.
SO WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE GUY WHO WAS USING IT? HIS ORIGINS, HIS NAME... ANYTHING.
HA! TYPICAL. LEAVE IT UP TO ARBITRO TO EXACERBATE THE PROBLEM.


NO MATTER
BUT WE HAVE ORDERS TO ACQUIRE SAMPLES.
PURSUE THE "RABBIT" DIRECTLY. IN THE END, THE ADDICTS DON'T MATTER

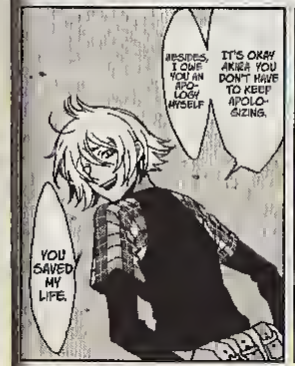
I CAN'T WAIT ANY LON-GER.


AT ANY RATE, IT SEEMS THAT THE LINE INCREASES THEIR STRENGTH FAR MORE THAN WE EXPECTED. WE'D BETTER PROCEED CAREFULLY WHEN COLLECTING SAMPLES.
A NUMBER OF THEM CAME FROM SL@STER, AND MOST OF THEM ARE TEENAGERS, BUT THAT'S ABOUT ALL I AM AWARE OF. ACTUALLY, THE INFORMANT I WAS USING JUST DROPPED OFF THE MAP, SO I NEED TO FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO TALK TO.

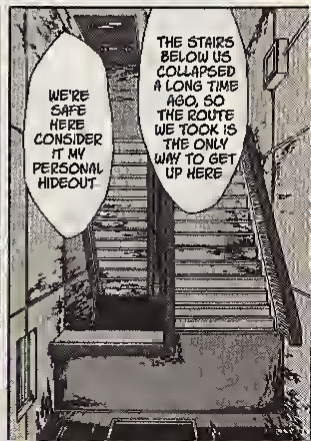

MIKASA?
SO.. OVER THERE! YEAH, LIKE OUTSIDE TOSHIMA YOU GUYS CAME FROM MIKASA, RIGHT?
THE OUT-SIDE?
WHEN THE WEATHER'S GOOD, YOU CAN SEE ALL THE WAY TO THE OUTSIDE
ISN'T THIS VIEW GREAT? ♪

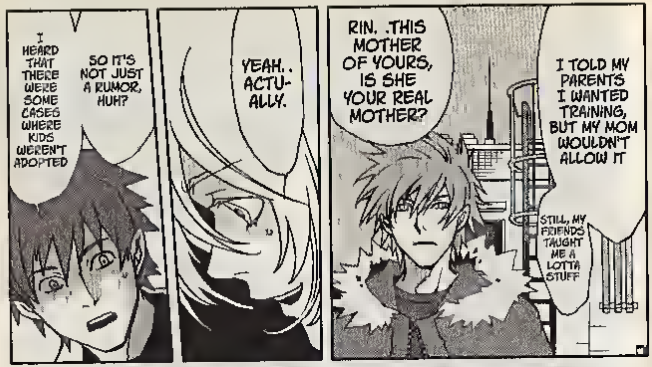

IT'S LIKE A DIF-FER-ENT WORLD
TRUTH IS, I COULDN'T GO BACK IF I WANTED NOT SINCE I'VE JOINED THE IGURA
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN I HAVEN'T BEEN BACK IN SO LONG
IT'S FUNNY IT FELT LIKE WE'D COME SO FAR—
HA HA SO IT'S CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE, HUH?
303

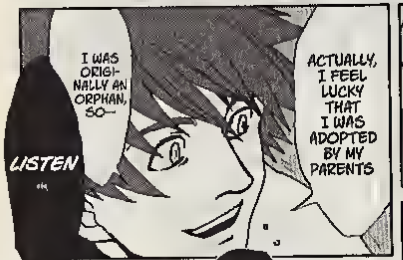
WOW! YOU CAN SEE ALL OF TOSHIMA FROM HERE!


BESIDES, I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY MYSELF
IT'S OKAY AKIRA YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP APOLOGIZING.
YOU SAVED MY LIFE.

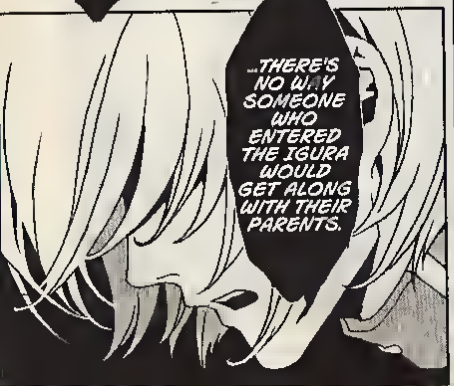
SORRY FOR THE BOTHER, RIN.

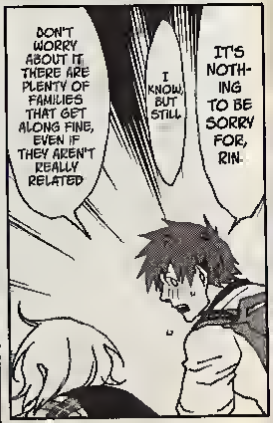

WE'RE SAFE HERE CONSIDER IT MY PERSONAL HIDEOUT
THE STAIRS BELOW US COLLAPSED A LONG TIME AGO, SO THE ROUTE WE TOOK IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET UP HERE


I HEARD THAT THERE WERE SOME CASES WHERE KIDS WEREN'T ADOPTED
SO IT'S NOT JUST A RUMOR, HUH?
YEAH. . ACTU-ALLY.
RIN. THIS MOTHER OF YOURS, IS SHE YOUR REAL MOTHER?
I TOLD MY PARENTS I WANTED TRAINING, BUT MY MOM WOULDN'T ALLOW IT
STILL, MY FRIENDS TAUGHT ME A LOTTA STUFF


LISTEN
I WAS ORIGI-NALLY AN ORPHAN, SO—
ACTUALLY, I FEEL LUCKY THAT I WAS ADOPTED BY MY PARENTS

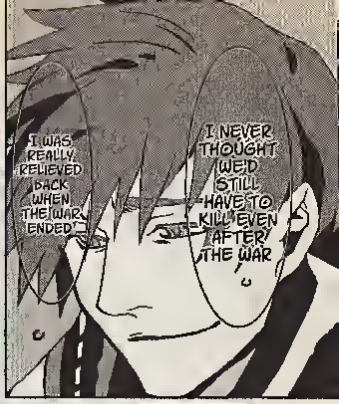
I, UH . .
SORRY? FOR WHAT?
SORRY. .

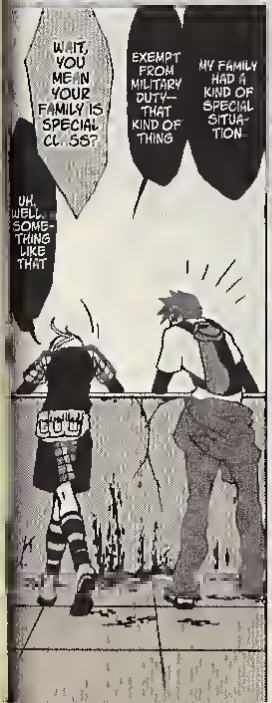

...THERE'S NO W. Y SOMEONE WHO ENTERED THE IGURA WOULD GET ALONG WITH THEIR PARENTS.

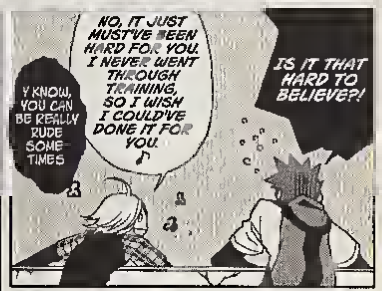

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. THERE ARE PLENTY OF FAMILIES THAT GET ALONG FINE, EVEN IF THEY AREN'T REALLY RELATED
I KNOW, BUT STILL
IT'S NOTHING TO BE SORRY FOR, RIN.

OH? SO DID YOU ACTUALLY GO THROUGH TRAINING?

AH, I SAY THAT. BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS IN ANY BATTLES, MYSELF.


I WAS REALLY RELIEVED BACK WHEN THE WAR ENDED.
I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D STILL HAVE TO KILL EVEN AFTER THE WAR.

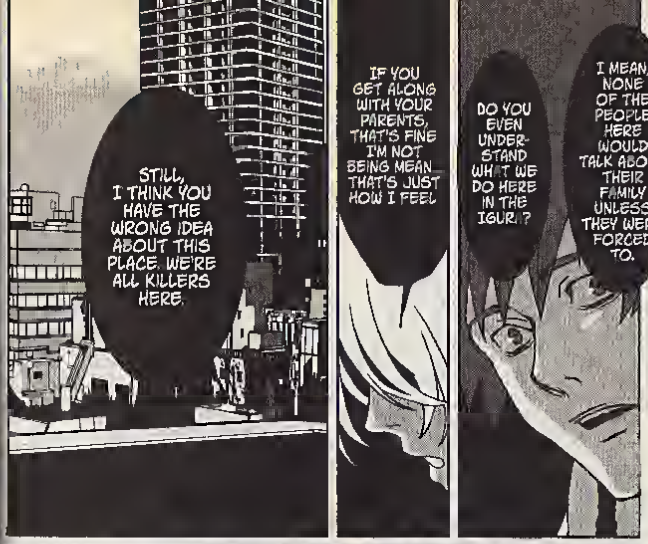

WAIT, YOU MEAN YOUR FAMILY IS SPECIAL CL. SS?
EXEMPT FROM MILITARY DUTY—THAT KIND OF THING
MY FAMILY HAD A KIND OF SPECIAL SITUA-TION.
UH, WELL. SOME-THING LIKE THAT

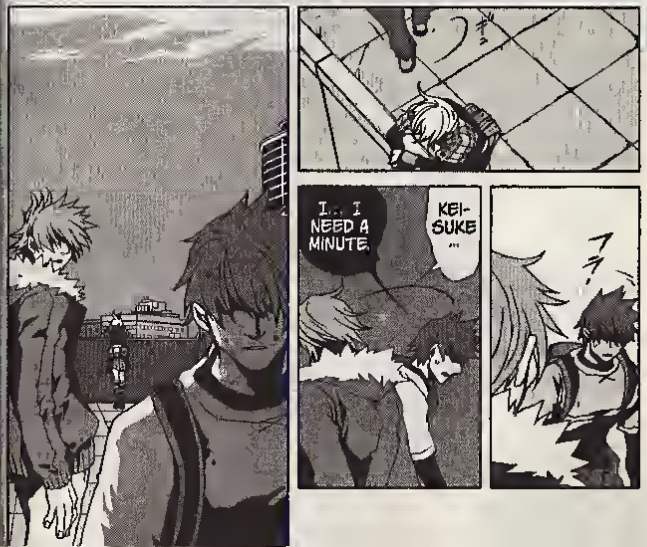

Y KNOW, YOU CAN BE REALLY RUDE SOME-TIMES
NO, IT JUST MUST'VE BEEN HARD FOR YOU. I NEVER WENT THROUGH TRAINING, SO I WISH I COULD'VE DONE IT FOR YOU. ♪
IS IT THAT HARD TO BELIEVE?!

AH WELL.
THERE CAN'T BE MORE THAN FIVE YEARS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US.

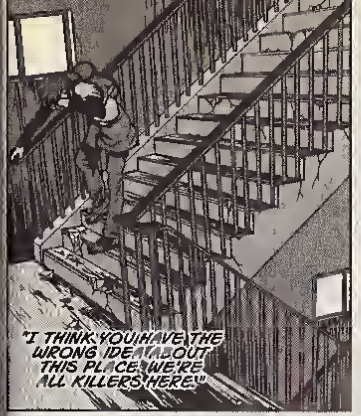
HOW OLD ARE YOU AGAIN?
BUT WAIT— YOU NEVER WENT THROUGH TRAINING AT ALL?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I WAKE UP AND IT'S LIKE "OH, THIS AGAIN," Y'KNOW?
IT'S JUST THE SAME CRAP, DAY AFTER DAY
.....
BUT STILL
...IT'S DIFFERENT WHEN IT'S SOMEONE YOU KNOW
AFTER YOU'VE BEEN HERE A COUPLE OF MONTHS, THAT'S THE WAY IT GOES.
EVEN THE DEAD BODIES BECOME ROUTINE AFTER A WHILE
THE SHITTY-TASTING SOLID THAT BALD CREEP AT THE BAR, THE TRASH HEAP THEY CALL THE IGURA


STILL, I THINK YOU HAVE THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT THIS PLACE. WE'RE ALL KILLERS HERE.
IF YOU GET ALONG WITH YOUR PARENTS, THAT'S FINE I'M NOT BEING MEAN. THAT'S JUST HOW I FEEL
DO YOU EVEN UNDER-STAND WHAT WE DO HERE IN THE IGUR...?
I MEAN, NONE OF THE PEOPLE HERE WOULD TALK ABOUT THEIR FAMILY UNLESS THEY WERE FORCED TO.

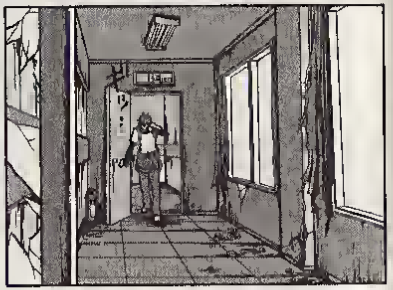

I... I NEED A MINUTE.
KEI-SUKE ...
?!

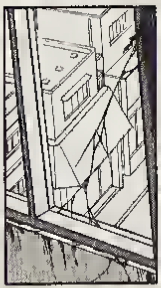
EVEN I CAN..
EVEN I CAN DO THIS IF I TRY.
I'M JUST NOT USED TO IT YET, "THAT'S ALL.


"I THINK YOU HAVE THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT THIS PLACE. WE'RE ALL KILLERS HERE."

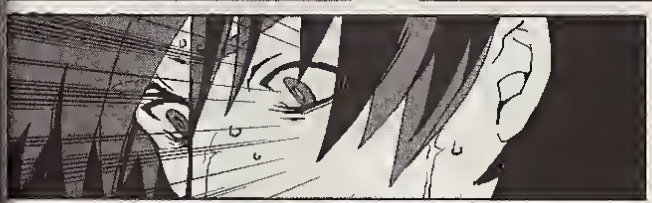
I WONDER WHY THAT IS?
EVEN THOUGH I SEE IT HAPPEN OVER AND OVER...I CAN NEVER GET USED TO IT.

I DUNNO...
WAS I TOO HARD ON KEI-SUKE?
I'M SORRY





MY THROAT HURTS.
UGH. I NEED SOME MOUTH-WASH



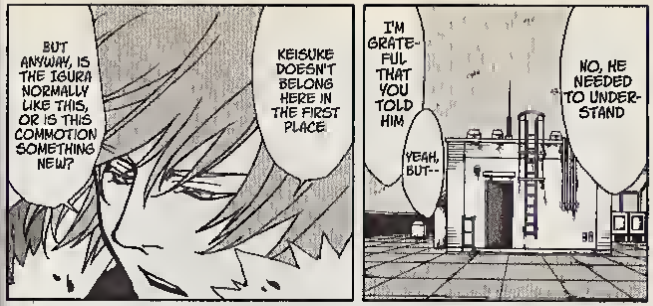
HIS TAGS WERE STILL WARM

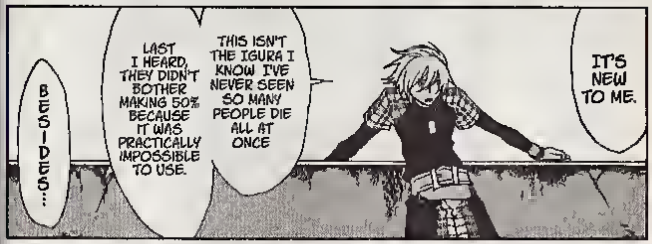
I KNOW IT, BUT...
I JUST

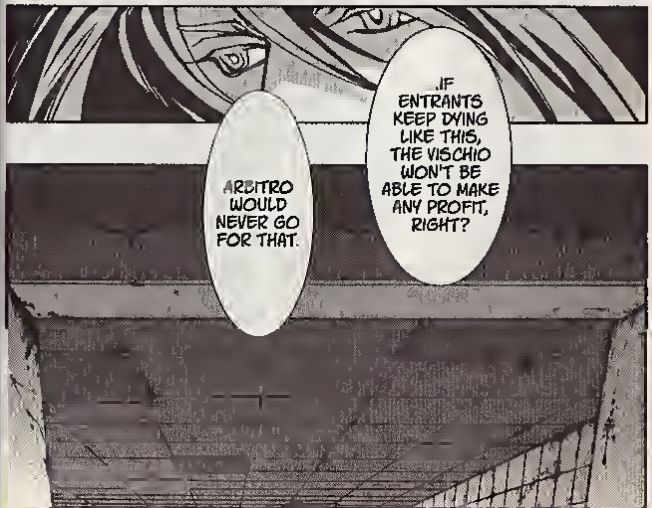
LIKE THAT DEAD BODY JUST NOW
THIS IS TOSHIMA, AFTER ALL. PEOPLE DIE LEFT AND RIGHT YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME, I'VE SEEN IT.

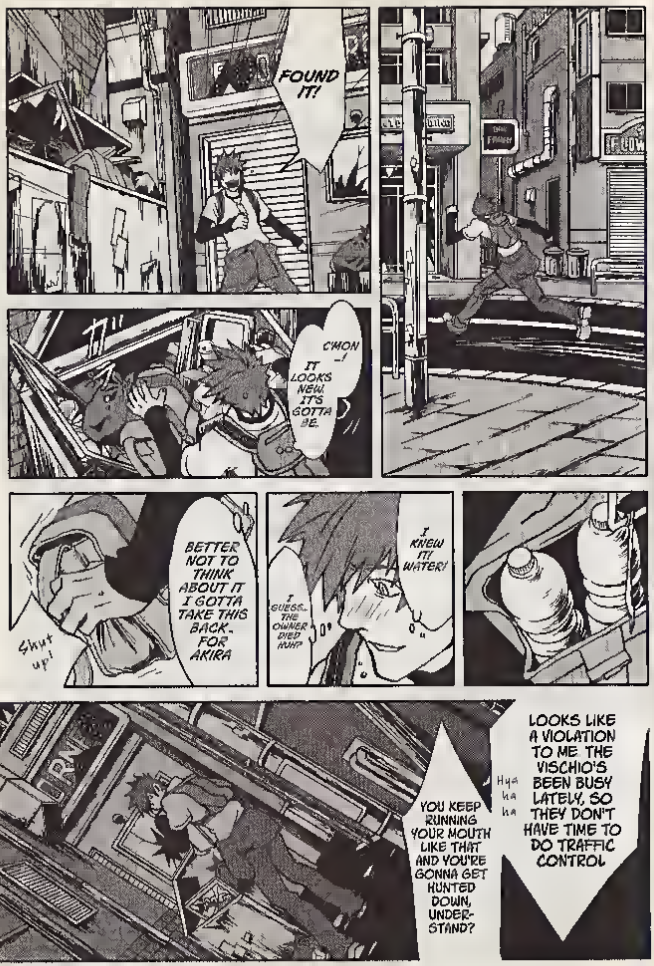
OF COURSE! EVEN I KNOW THAT...

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON?

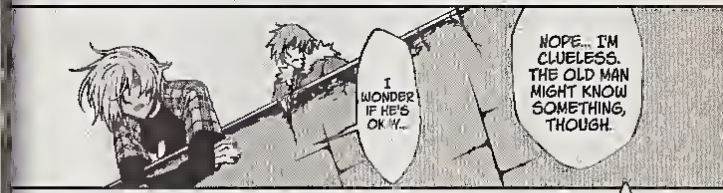

KEISUKE DOESN'T BELONG HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
BUT ANYWAY, IS THE IGURA NORMALLY LIKE THIS, OR IS THIS COMMOTION SOMETHING NEW?
NO, HE NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND
I'M GRATEFUL THAT YOU TOLD HIM
YEAH, BUT--

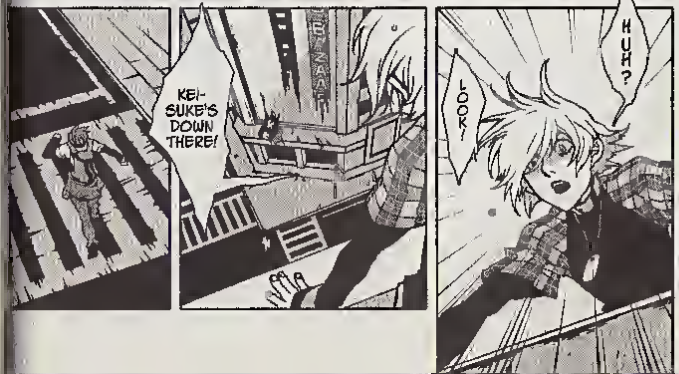

IT'S NEW TO ME.
THIS ISN'T THE IGURA I KNOW I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY PEOPLE DIE ALL AT ONCE
LAST I HEARD, THEY DIDN'T BOTHER MAKING 50% BECAUSE IT WAS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO USE.
BESIDES...


IF ENTRANTS KEEP DYING LIKE THIS, THE VISCHIO WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE ANY PROFIT, RIGHT?
ARBITRO WOULD NEVER GO FOR THAT.


FOUND IT!
C'MON...! IT LOOKS NEW, IT'S GOTTA BE.
BETTER NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT. I GOTTA TAKE THIS BACK FOR AKIRA
Shut up!
I GUESS... THE OWNER DIED, HUH?
I KNEW IT! WATER!
YOU KEEP RUNNING YOUR MOUTH LIKE THAT AND YOU'RE GONNA GET HUNTED DOWN, UNDERSTAND?
LOOKS LIKE A VIOLATION TO ME. THE VISCHIO'S BEEN BUSY LATELY, SO THEY DON'T HAVE TIME TO DO TRAFFIC CONTROL
Hya ha ha

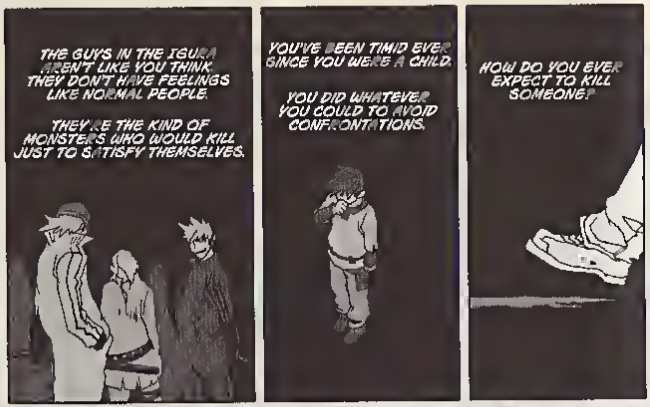
AHHHHHHHH


I WONDER IF HE'S OK, TOO...
NOPE... I'M CLUELESS. THE OLD MAN MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING, THOUGH.


KEISUKE'S DOWN THERE!
LOOK!
HUH?

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
GOOD LUCK
OKAY. SORRY AGAIN...
SINCE YOU KNOW THE STREETS SO WELL, I'LL WATCH WHICH WAY YOU GO. IF YOU SEE KEISUKE, BRING HIM BACK, OKAY?
HEY AKIRA! WE SHOULD GET GOING.
WHICH WAY?
THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THESE LITTLE ALLEY-WAYS.
GULP

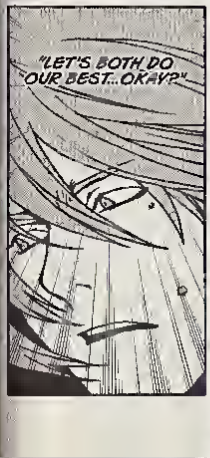
THEY'RE FROM THE IGURA...!
AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, HAND OVER THE LINE. THERE'S NO USE HOLDING ON TO IT.
I'LL TAKE THE LONG WAY
I CAN'T LEAD THEM BACK TO AKIRA!
CRAP
DID THEY SEE ME?
WHO'S THERE?! AN EN-TRANT?!


THE GUYS IN THE IGUIRA AREN'T LIKE YOU THINK. THEY DON'T HAVE FEELINGS LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE.
THEY ARE THE KIND OF MONSTERS WHO WOULD KILL JUST TO SATISFY THEMSELVES.
YOU'VE BEEN TIMID EVER SINCE YOU WERE A CHILD.
YOU DID WHATEVER YOU COULD TO AVOID CONFRONTATIONS.
HOW DO YOU EVER EXPECT TO KILL SOMEONE!?

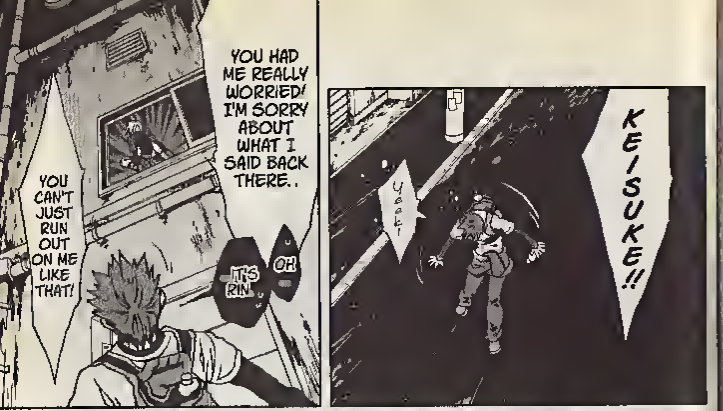
THEY AREN'T LIKE YOU, KEISUKE.
WALL SEVEN

IT'S NOT KEI-SUKE.

HE'S GOT NO SENSE OF DIRECTION.
DOES HE EVEN KNOW HOW TO GET BACK?
式会社

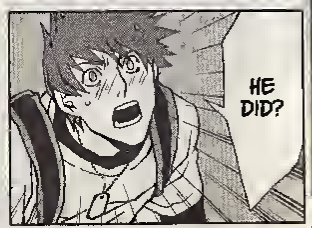

"LET'S BOTH DO OUR BEST...OKAY?"

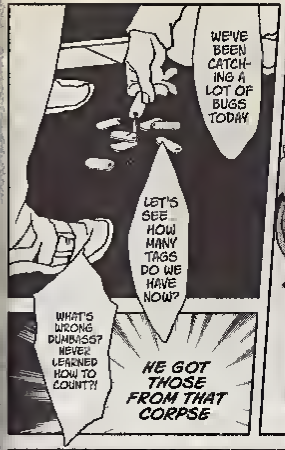
RIGHT OR LEFT?
WHICH WAY DID HE GO?


YOU HAD ME REALLY WORRIED! I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT I SAID BACK THERE..
YOU CAN'T JUST RUN OUT ON ME LIKE THAT!
OH
IT'S RIN..
KEISUKE!!
Yeah!

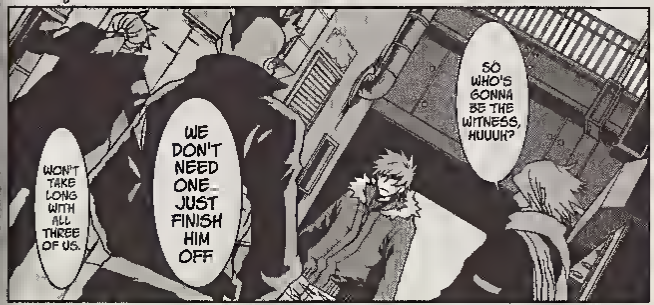
HE'S RUN-NING AWAY!!!

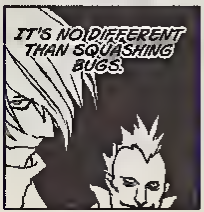
HE WENT LOOK-ING FOR YOU A MINUTE AGO.
YOU DIDN'T RUN INTO AKIRA?
I WASN'T GOING VERY FAR O- ANY-THING.
Sorry

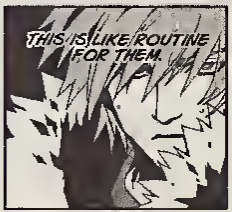

HE DID?


WE'VE BEEN CATCH-ING A LOT OF BUGS TODAY
LET'S SEE... HOW MANY TAGS DO WE HAVE NOW?
WHAT'S WRONG DUMMISS? NEVER LEARNED HOW TO COUNT?!
HE GOT THOSE FROM THAT CORPSE

WHAT THE HELL, MAN?! YOU SCARED US!

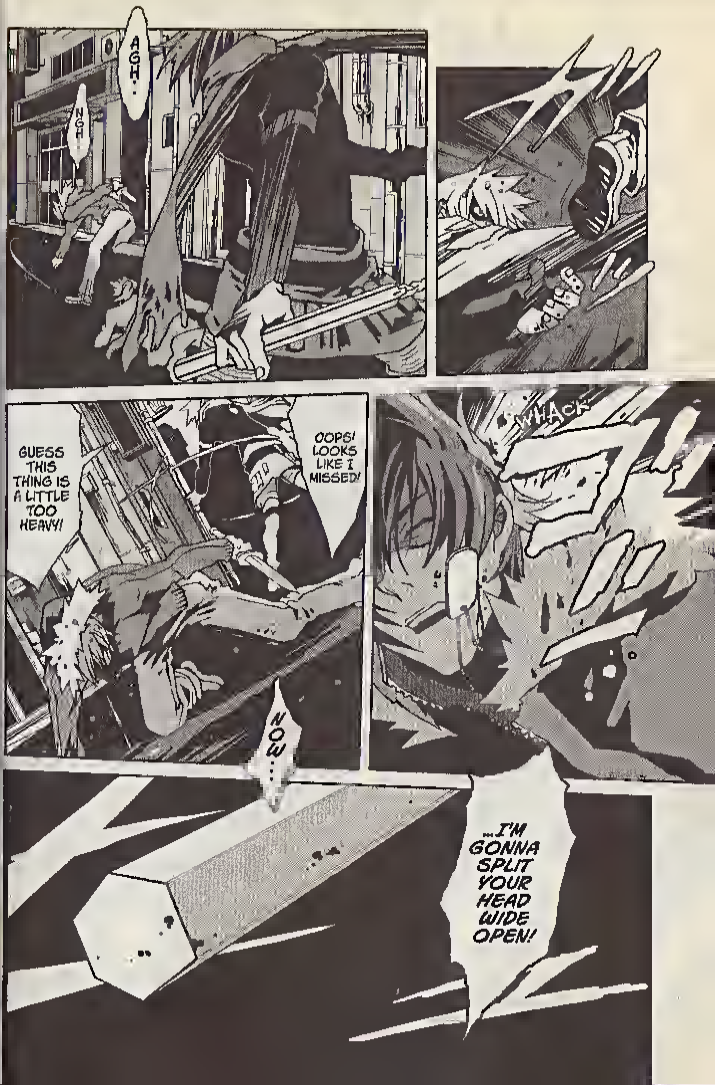

WON'T TAKE LONG WITH ALL THREE OF US.
WE DON'T NEED ONE- JUST FINISH HIM OFF
SO WHO'S GONNA BE THE WITNESS, HUUUH?

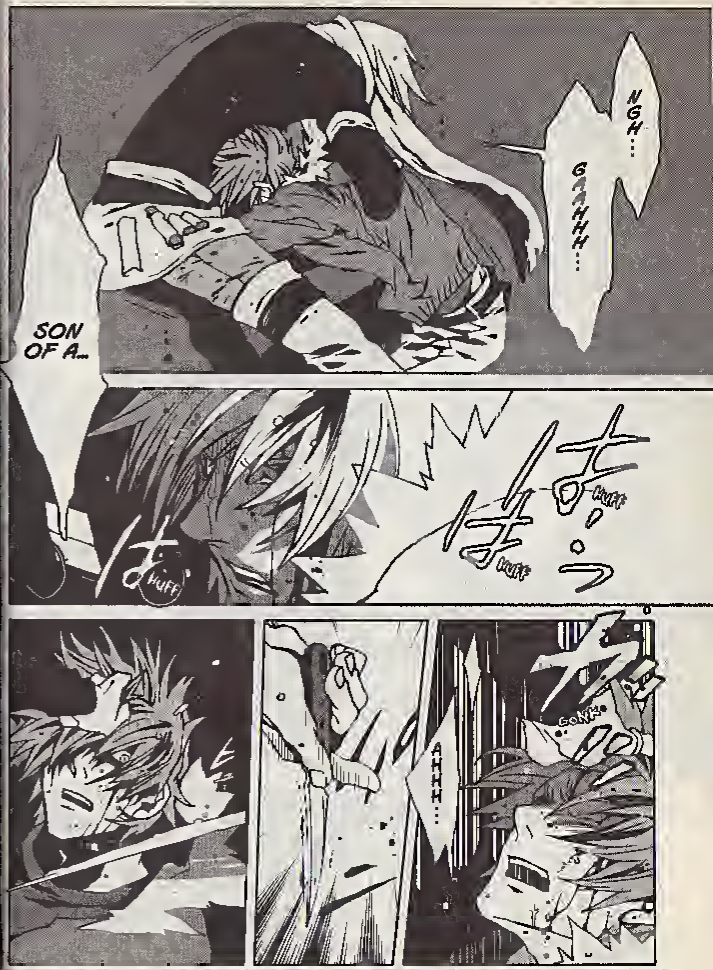

IT'S NO DIFFERENT THAN SQUASHING BUGS.

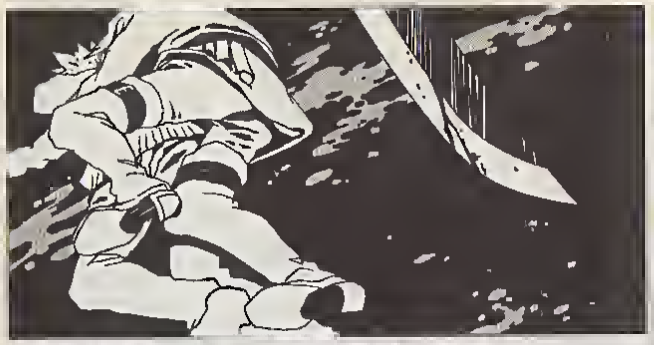

THIS IS LIKE ROUTINE FOR THEM.

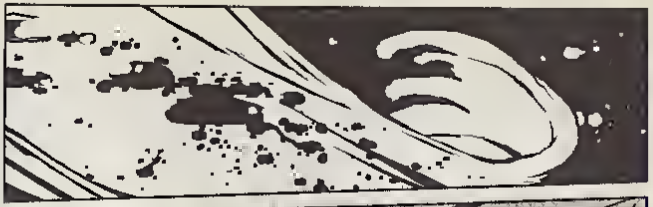
HMPH!
switch
MILO SEVEN
YOU BAS-TARD...!
GU...
HOLD STILL!
HI!
?!
WHOA...!
WHACK
GWAH!

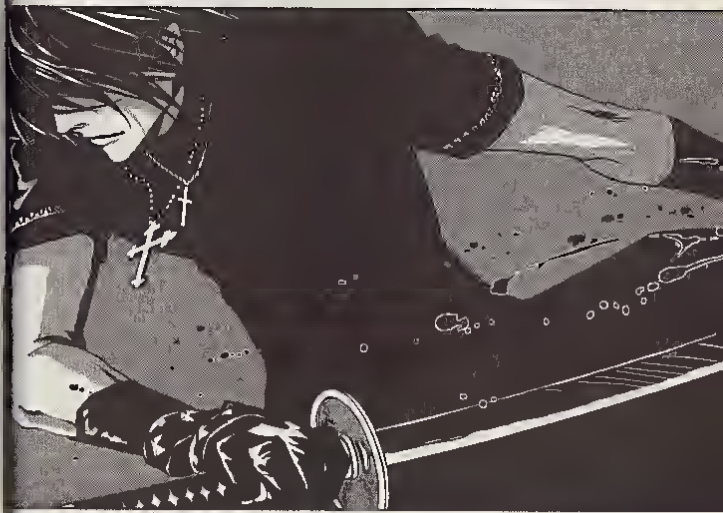
CRACK!
GYAAH...
AAAHHH!
TCH...
WHOA, SHIT!
WHAT?!
THUNK
WHOOSH


AGH!
NGH
GUESS THIS THING IS A LITTLE TOO HEAVY!
OOPS! LOOKS LIKE I MISSED!
NOW...
WHACK
...I'M GONNA SPLIT YOUR HEAD WIDE OPEN!


NGH...
GAHHH...
SON OF A...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
GONK
AHHH...







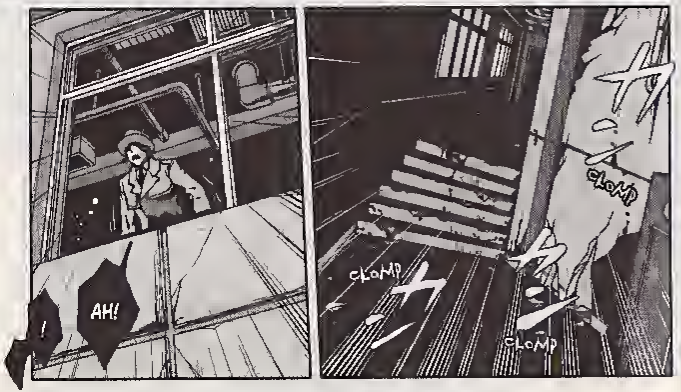
KACH

NNNGH...
GH!

AAAGHHH!
SHI
...KI
...
H...

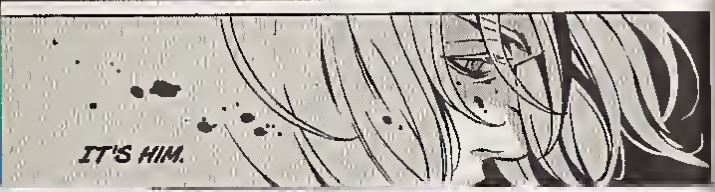
!

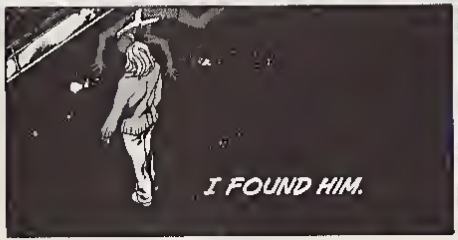
RATTA
TAT
TAT
TAT
TA
TAT
TA


AH!
CLOMP
CLOMP
CLOMP

TAT
!!
TAT
TA
TAT

TA
TA
TAT
TAT
HEY, YOU FORGOT YOUR INFO
NO REFUNDS ALL RIGHT?
AUTOMATIC GUNS, HUH? HAS THE WAR STARTED ALREADY?
NOT GOOD, MAN.


IT'S HIM.


I FOUND HIM.

WHAT?!

BLAM
BLAM

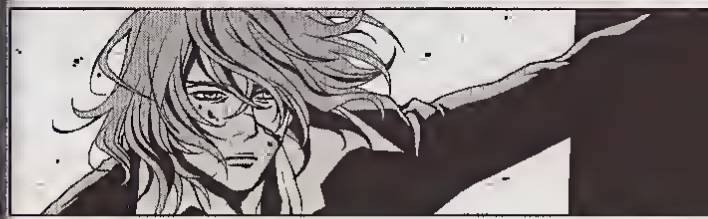
BLAM

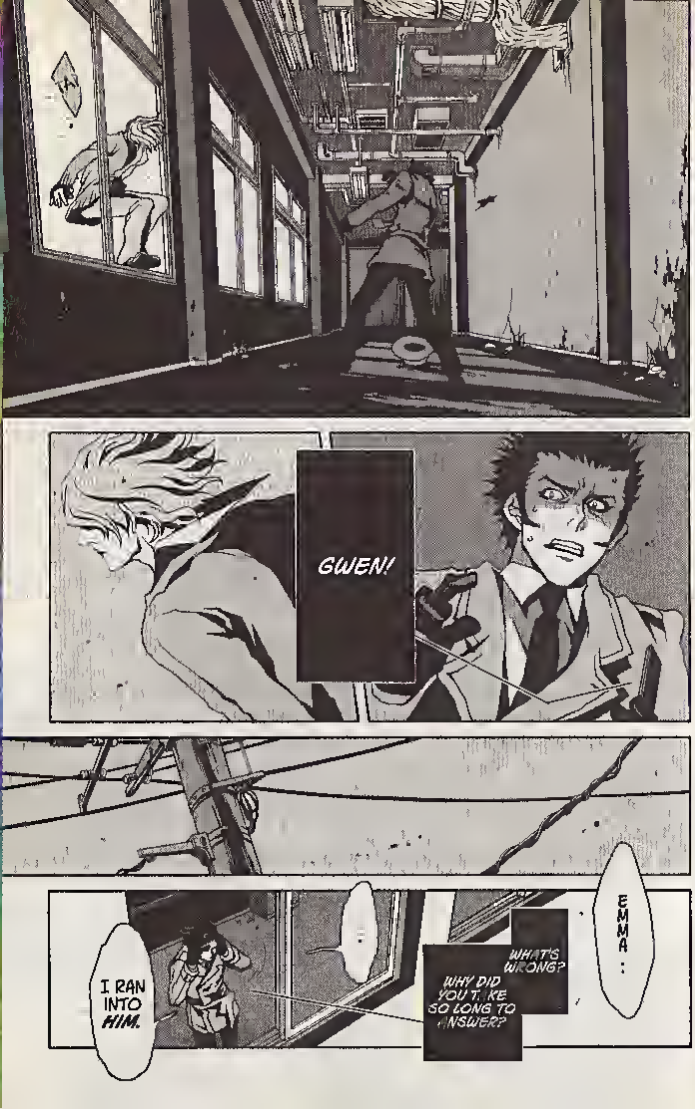
BLAM
BLAM

カ
ガラガラ

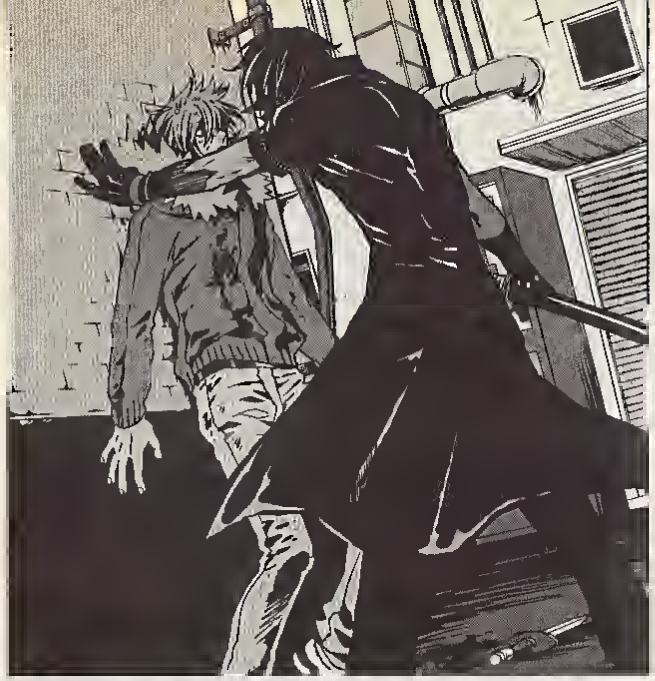
Phew...

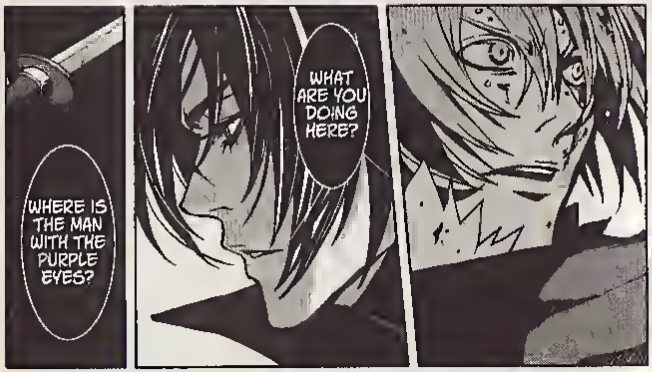
BEEP
BEEP
RINNNG
SHIT, NO SIGNAL!
C'MON

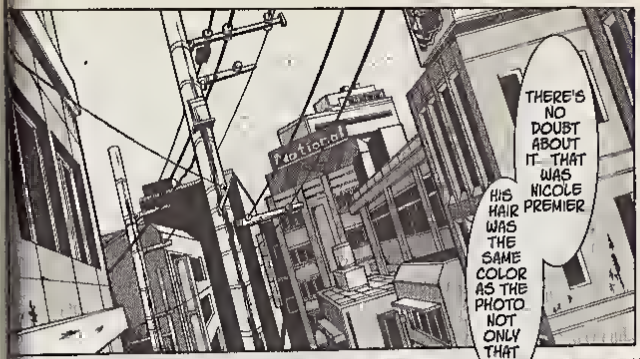



GWEN!
EMMA:
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY DID YOU TAKE SO LONG TO ANSWER?
I RAN INTO HIM.

SHIT:!!
GWEN!
WHAT HAPPENED?!
ANSWER ME, GWEN!!

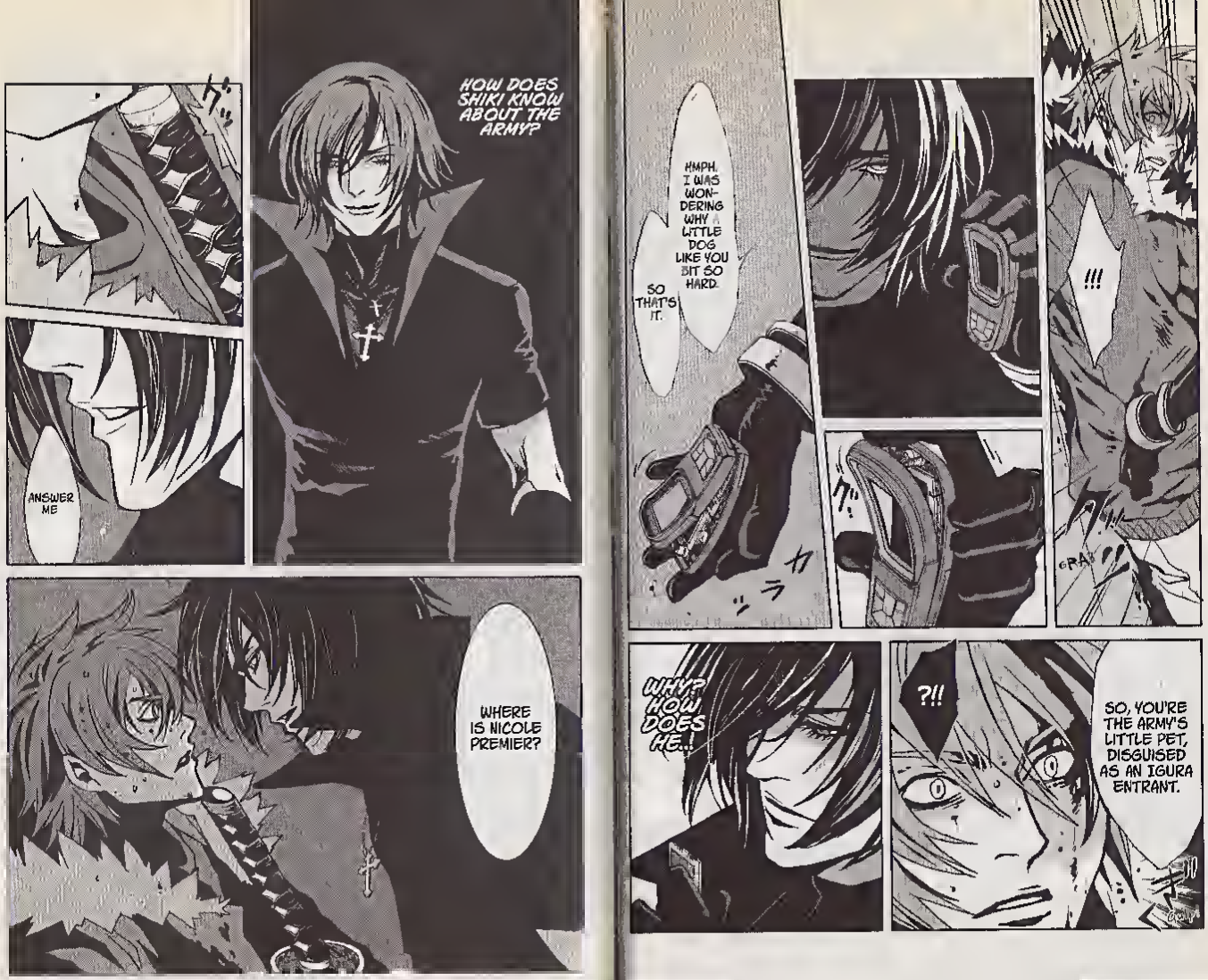


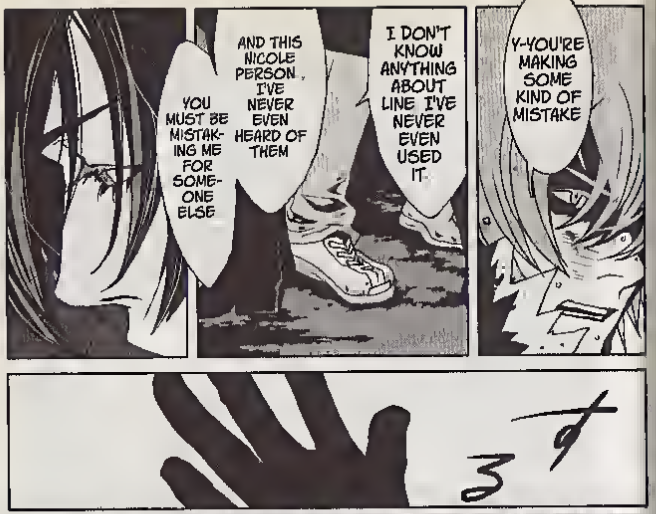

WHERE IS THE MAN WITH THE PURPLE EYES?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

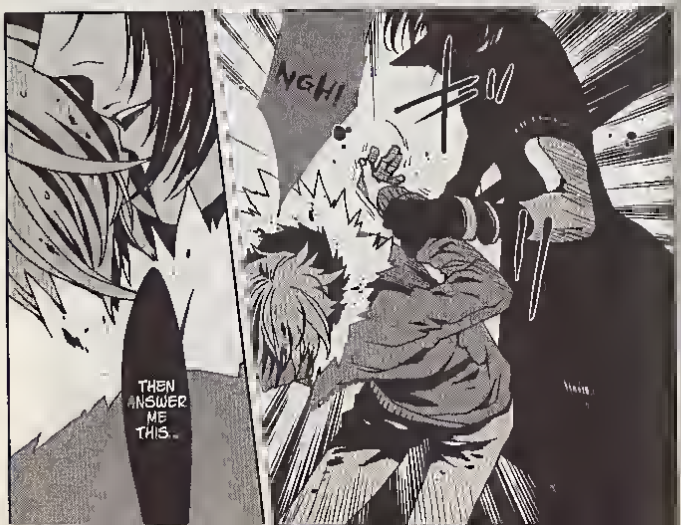

National
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. THAT WAS NICOLE PREMIER
HIS HAIR WAS THE SAME COLOR AS THE PHOTO. NOT ONLY THAT

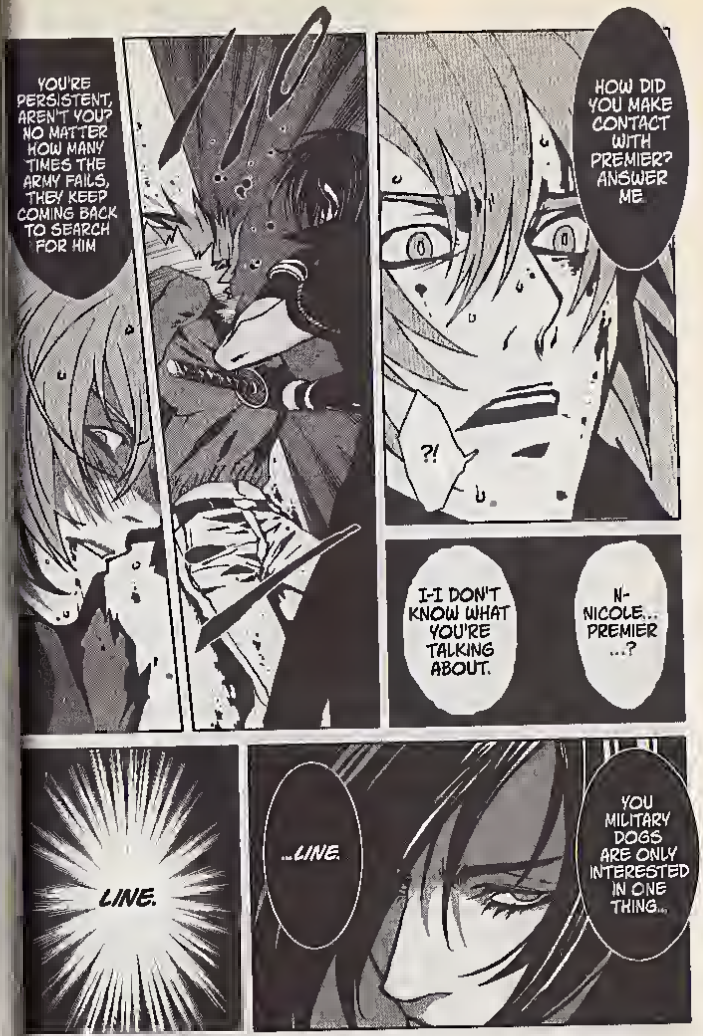
...HIS EYES WERE PURPLE.

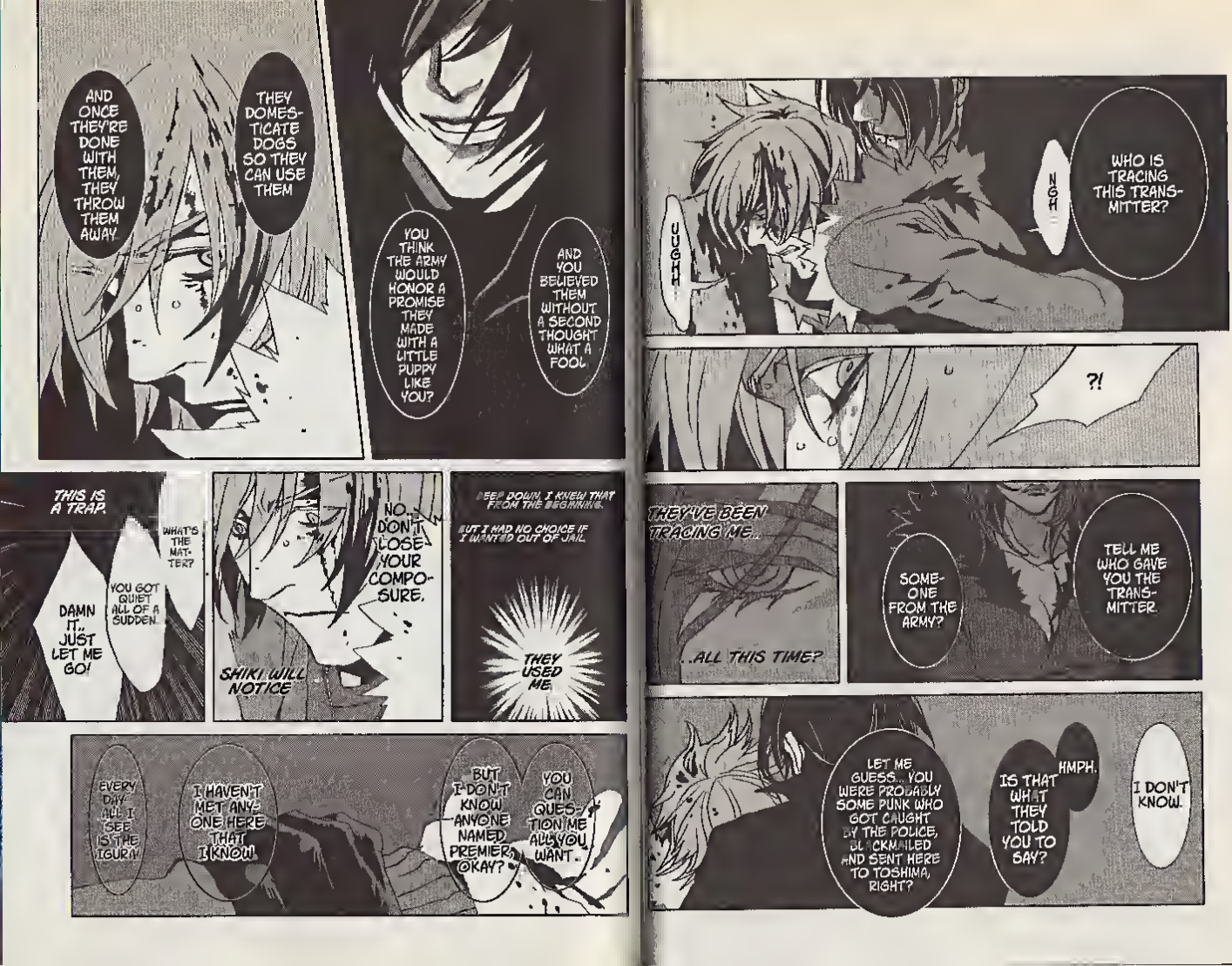
shove

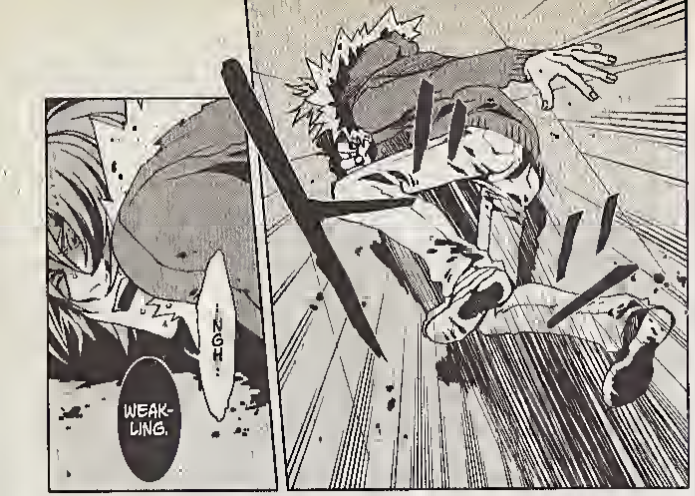

HOW DOES SHIKI KNOW ABOUT THE ARMY?
ANSWER ME
WHERE IS NICOLE PREMIER?
HMPH. I WAS WONDERING WHY A LITTLE DOG LIKE YOU BIT SO HARD.
SO THAT'S IT.
!!!
GRAB
WHY? HOW DOES HE...!
?!!
SO, YOU'RE THE ARMY'S LITTLE PET, DISGUISED AS AN IGURA ENTRANT.

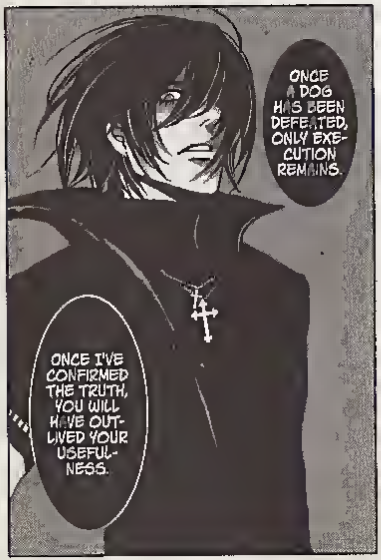

Y-YOU'RE MAKING SOME KIND OF MISTAKE
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT LINE I'VE NEVER EVEN USED IT.
AND THIS NICOLE PERSON, I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THEM
YOU MUST BE MISTAKING ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE

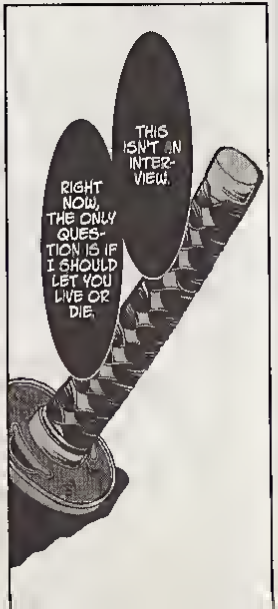

NGHI
THEN ANSWER ME THIS..


YOU'RE PERSISTENT, AREN'T YOU? NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES THE ARMY FAILS, THEY KEEP COMING BACK TO SEARCH FOR HIM
HOW DID YOU MAKE CONTACT WITH PREMIER? ANSWER ME.
?!
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
N-NICOLE... PREMIER ...?
LINE.
..LINE.
YOU MILITARY DOGS ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN ONE THING...

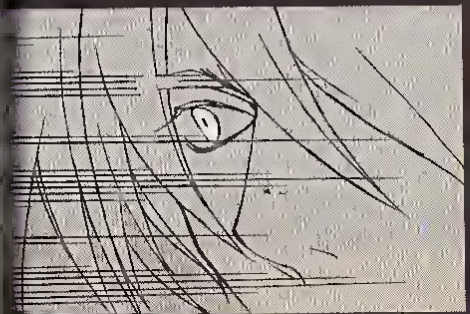

AND ONCE THEY'RE DONE WITH THEM, THEY THROW THEM AWAY.
THEY DOMESTICATE DOGS SO THEY CAN USE THEM
YOU THINK THE ARMY WOULD HONOR A PROMISE THEY MADE WITH A LITTLE PUPPY LIKE YOU?
AND YOU BELIEVED THEM WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT WHAT A FOOL.
UGH!
NGH
WHO IS TRACING THIS TRANSMITTER?
?!
THIS IS A TRAP.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YOU GOT QUIET ALL OF A SUDDEN.
DAMN IT.. JUST LET ME GO!
NO. DON'T LOSE YOUR COMPOSURE.
SHIKI WILL NOTICE
BEEN DOWN. I KNEW THAT FROM THE BEGINNING.
BUT I HAD NO CHOICE IF I WANTED OUT OF JAIL.
THEY USED ME.
THEY'VE BEEN TRACING ME...
..ALL THIS TIME?
SOMEONE FROM THE ARMY?
TELL ME WHO GAVE YOU THE TRANSMITTER.
EVERY DAY ALL I SEE IS THE IGURA
I HAVEN'T MET ANYONE HERE THAT I KNOW.
BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYONE NAMED PREMIER, OKAY?
YOU CAN QUESTION ME ALL YOU WANT.
LET ME GUESS.. YOU WERE PROBABLY SOME PUNK WHO GOT CAUGHT BY THE POLICE, BLACKMAILED AND SENT HERE TO TOSHIMA, RIGHT?
HMPH.
IS THAT WHAT THEY TOLD YOU TO SAY?
I DON'T KNOW.

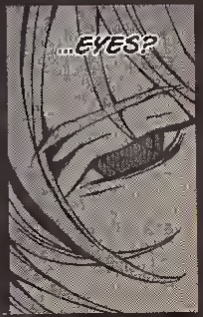

NGH!
WEAK-LING.

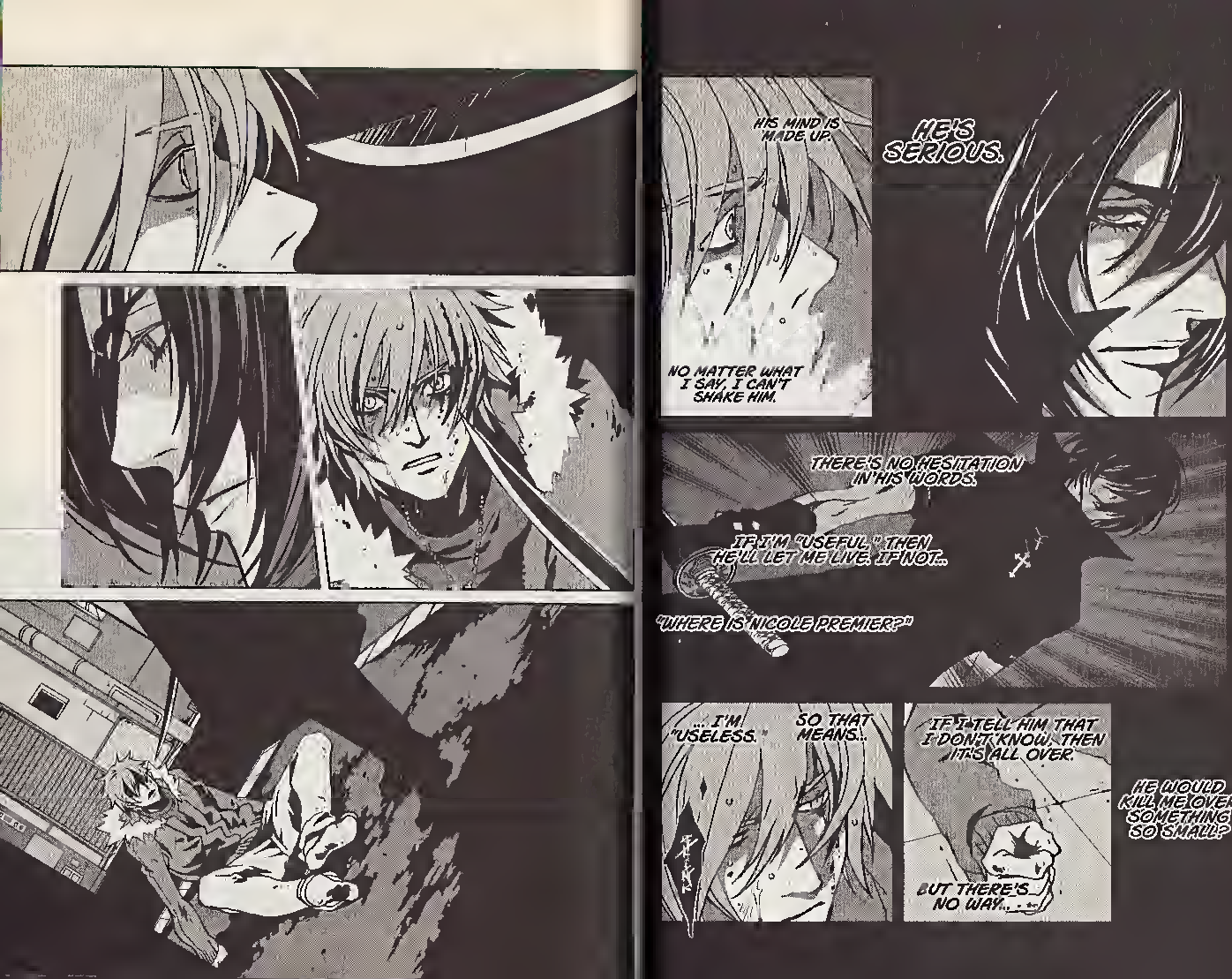

ONCE A DOG HAS BEEN DEFEATED, ONLY EXE-CUTION REMAINS.
ONCE I'VE CONFIRMED THE TRUTH, YOU WILL HAVE OUT-LIVED YOUR USEFUL-NESS.

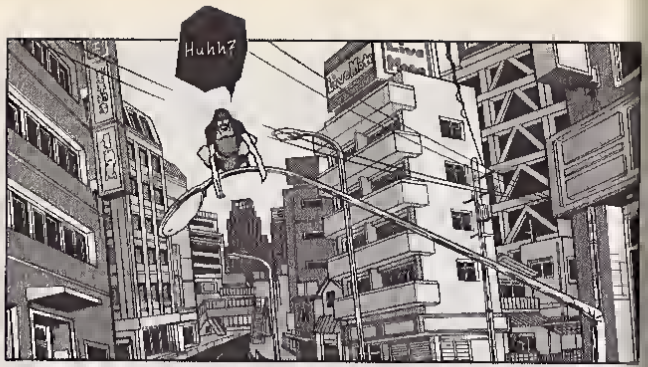

THIS ISN'T AN INTER-VIEW.
RIGHT NOW, THE ONLY QUES-TION IS IF I SHOULD LET YOU LIVE OR DIE.

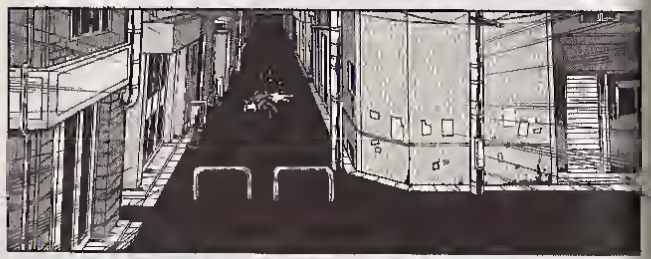
I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING ABOUT THE ARMY.
I CAN'T TALK ABOUT SOME-THING I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT!
PURPLE...



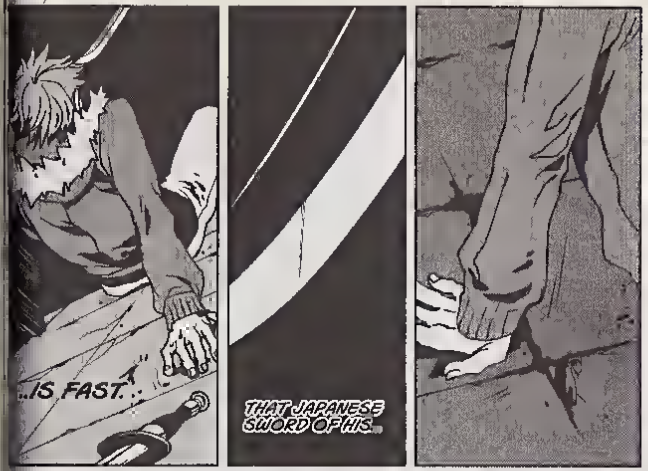

...EYES?

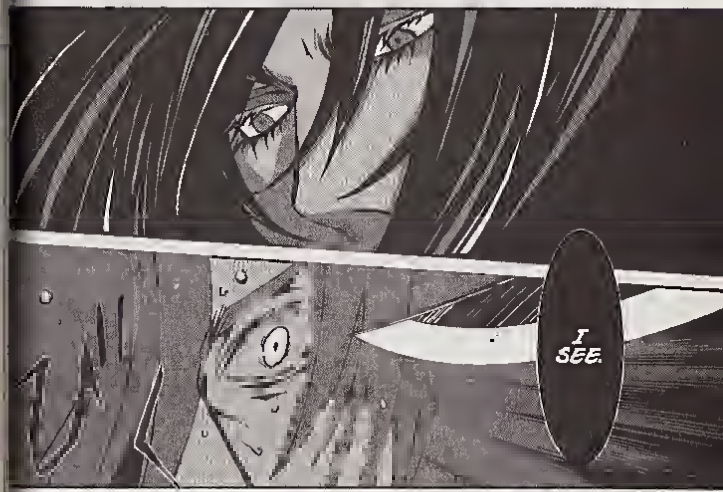

HIS MIND IS MADE UP.
NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, I CAN'T SHAKE HIM.
HE'S SERIOUS.
THERE'S NO HESITATION IN HIS WORDS.
IF I'M "USEFUL," THEN HE'LL LET ME LIVE. IF NOT..
"WHERE IS NICOLE PREMIER?"
.... I'M "USELESS."
SO THAT MEANS..
IF I TELL HIM THAT I DON'T KNOW, THEN IT'S ALL OVER.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY...
HE WOULD KILL ME OVER SOMETHING SO SMALL?

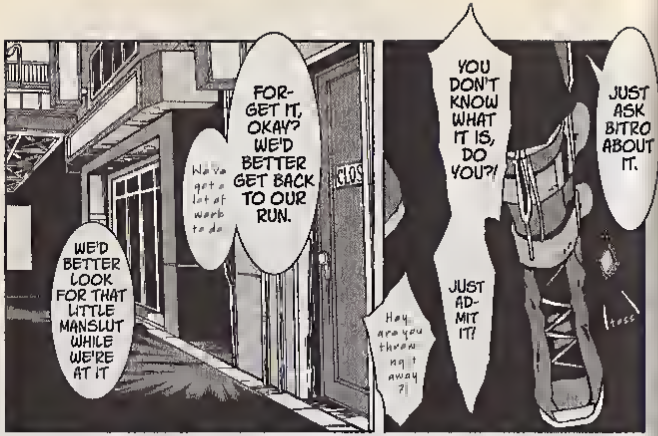

Huhh?

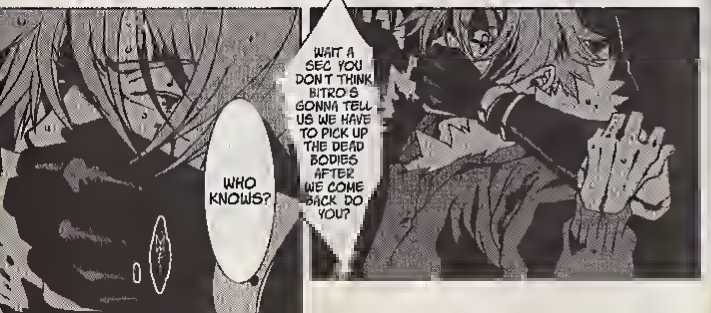


Look what I found!
Hayyyy, good-zan!
TONK
HYUR

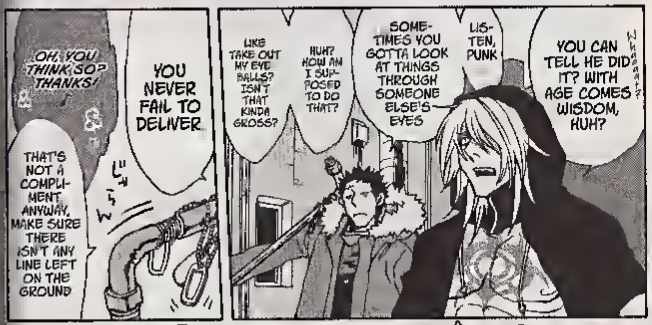

..IS FAST..
THAT JAPANESE SWORD OF HIS..


I SEE.


WE'D BETTER LOOK FOR THAT LITTLE MANSLUT WHILE WE'RE AT IT
We've got a lot of work to do
FOR-GET IT, OKAY? WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO OUR RUN.
Hey, are you throwing it away?!
JUST AD-MIT IT?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, DO YOU?!
JUST ASK BITRO ABOUT IT.

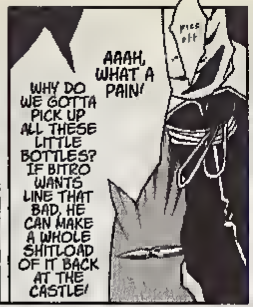

WHO KNOWS?
WAIT A SEC YOU DON'T THINK BITRO'S GONNA TELL US WE HAVE TO PICK UP THE DEAD BODIES AFTER WE COME BACK DO YOU?

SHIKITI STRIKES AGAIN. SO WHAT?

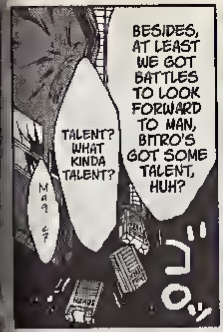

OH, YOU THINK SO? THANKS!
YOU NEVER FAIL TO DELIVER
THAT'S NOT A COMPLIMENT ANYWAY, MAKE SURE THERE ISN'T ANY LINE LEFT ON THE GROUND
LIKE TAKE OUT MY EYE BALLS? ISN'T THAT KINDA GROSS?
HUH? HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DO THAT?
SOME-TIMES YOU GOTTA LOOK AT THINGS THROUGH SOMEONE ELSE'S EYES
LIS-TEN, PUNK
YOU CAN TELL HE DID IT? WITH AGE COMES WISDOM, HUH?

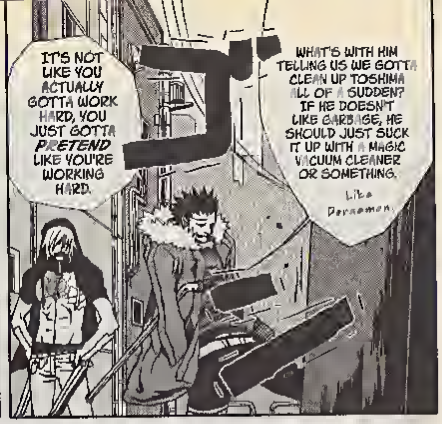
XXX
OH THIS? IT'S .
HEY, GEEZER! WHAT'S THIS THING?

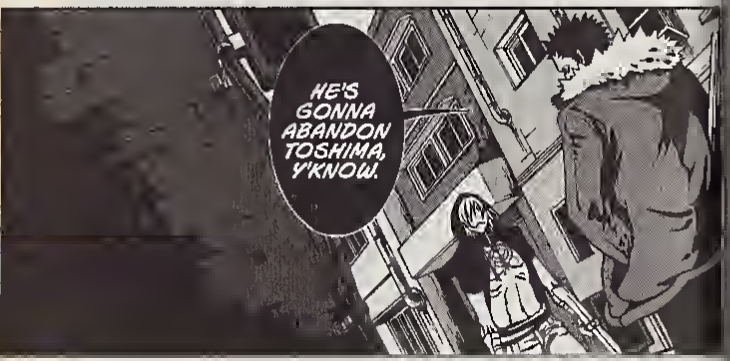
HE CAN'T DO THAT ANY-MORE

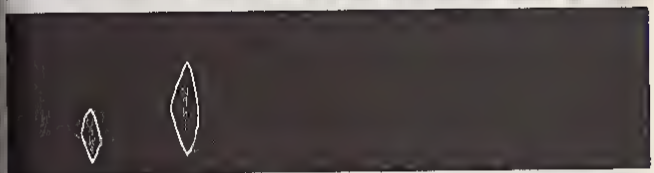

WHY DO WE GOTTA PICK UP ALL THESE LITTLE BOTTLES? IF BITRO WANTS LINE THAT BAD, HE CAN MAKE A WHOLE SHITLOAD OF IT BACK AT THE CASTLE!
AAAH, WHAT A PAIN!
PICK OFF

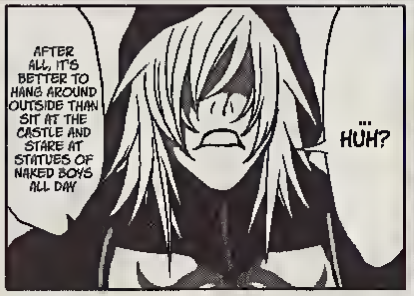
WHAT'S THAT BY YOUR FOOT? YOU BLIND?
SO YOU FINALLY LOST YOUR HEARING, HUH?

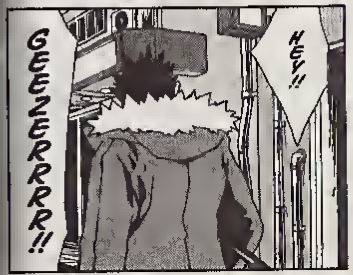

BESIDES, AT LEAST WE GOT BATTLES TO LOOK FORWARD TO MAN, BITRO'S GOT SOME TALENT, HUH?
TALENT? WHAT KINDA TALENT?
MAGIC

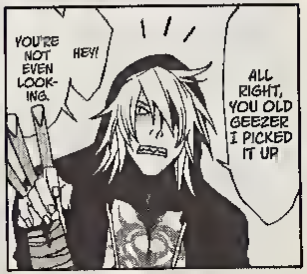

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU ACTUALLY GOTTA WORK HARD, YOU JUST GOTTA PRETEND LIKE YOU'RE WORKING HARD.
WHAT'S WITH HIM TELLING US WE GOTTA CLEAN UP TOSHIMA ALL OF A SUDDEN? IF HE DOESN'T LIKE GARBAGE, HE SHOULD JUST SUCK IT UP WITH A MAGIC VACUUM CLEANER OR SOMETHING.
Like Doraemon


HE'S GONNA ABANDON TOSHIMA, Y'KNOW.

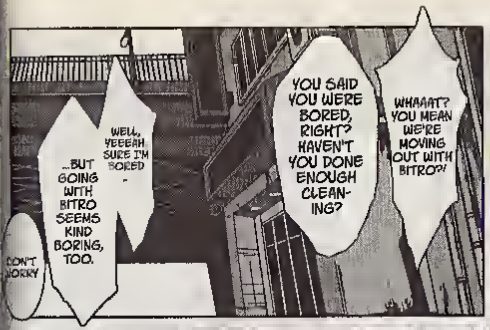


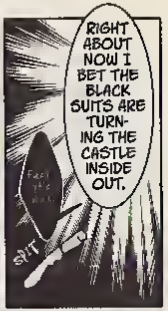

AFTER ALL, IT'S BETTER TO HANG AROUND OUTSIDE THAN SIT AT THE CASTLE AND STARE AT STATUES OF NAKED BOYS ALL DAY
...HUH?


GEEZERRRR!!
HEY!!

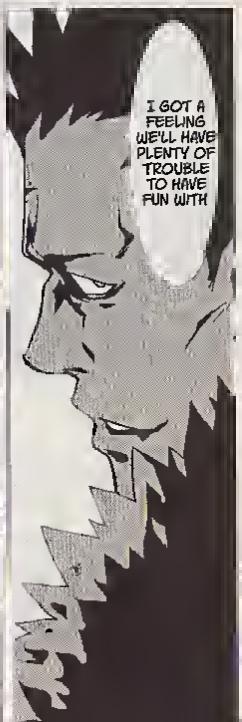

YOU'RE NOT EVEN LOOK-ING.
HEY!
ALL RIGHT, YOU OLD GEEZER I PICKED IT UP

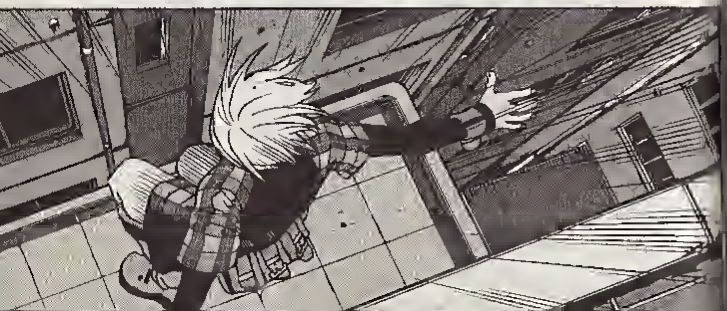
WHAM

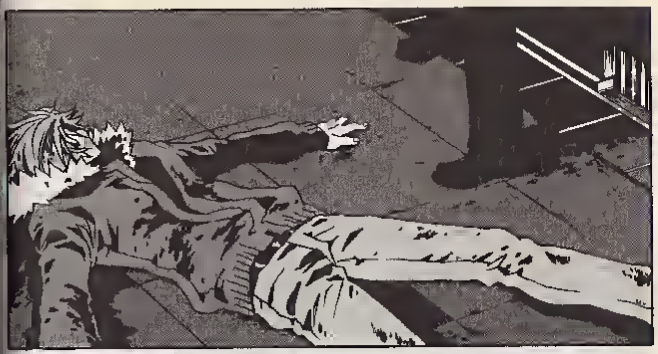

DON'T WORRY
...BUT GOING WITH BITRO SEEMS KIND BORING, TOO.
WELL, YEEEAH SURE I'M BORED -
YOU SAID YOU WERE BORED, RIGHT? HAVEN'T YOU DONE ENOUGH CLEANING?
WHAAAT? YOU MEAN WE'RE MOVING OUT WITH BITRO?!


RIGHT ABOUT NOW I BET THE BLACK SUITS ARE TURNING THE CASTLE INSIDE OUT.
SHIT

But what about Pancho? I don't put on his walk!

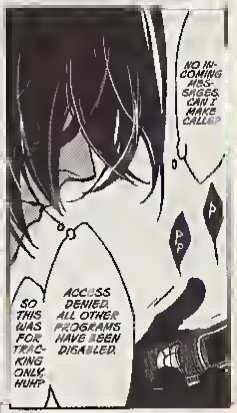

I GOT A FEELING WE'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TROUBLE TO HAVE FUN WITH



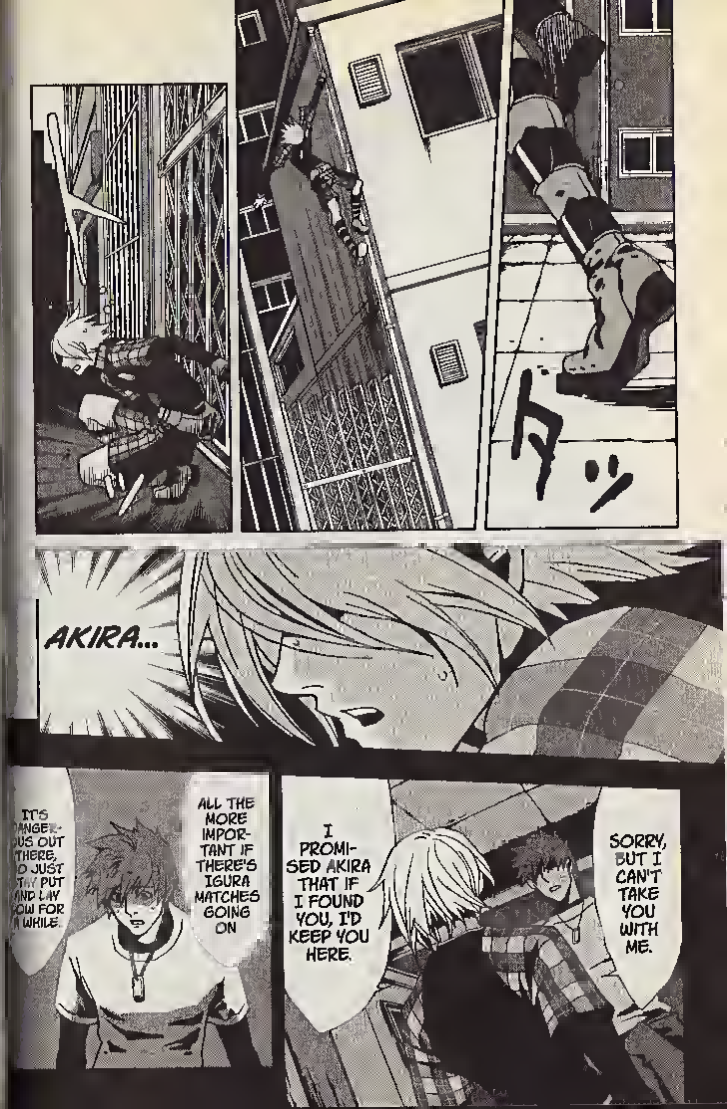


...HE'S JUST BAIT.

DROP HIM IN THE TANK AND WATCH HIM SWIM. HE'S NOT AN AGENT.
THEY MUST HAVE RECRUITED HIM FROM BLOSTER TO ENTER HIM IN THE IGURA. A LITTLE MINNOW LIKE HIM WOULDN'T KNOW MUCH

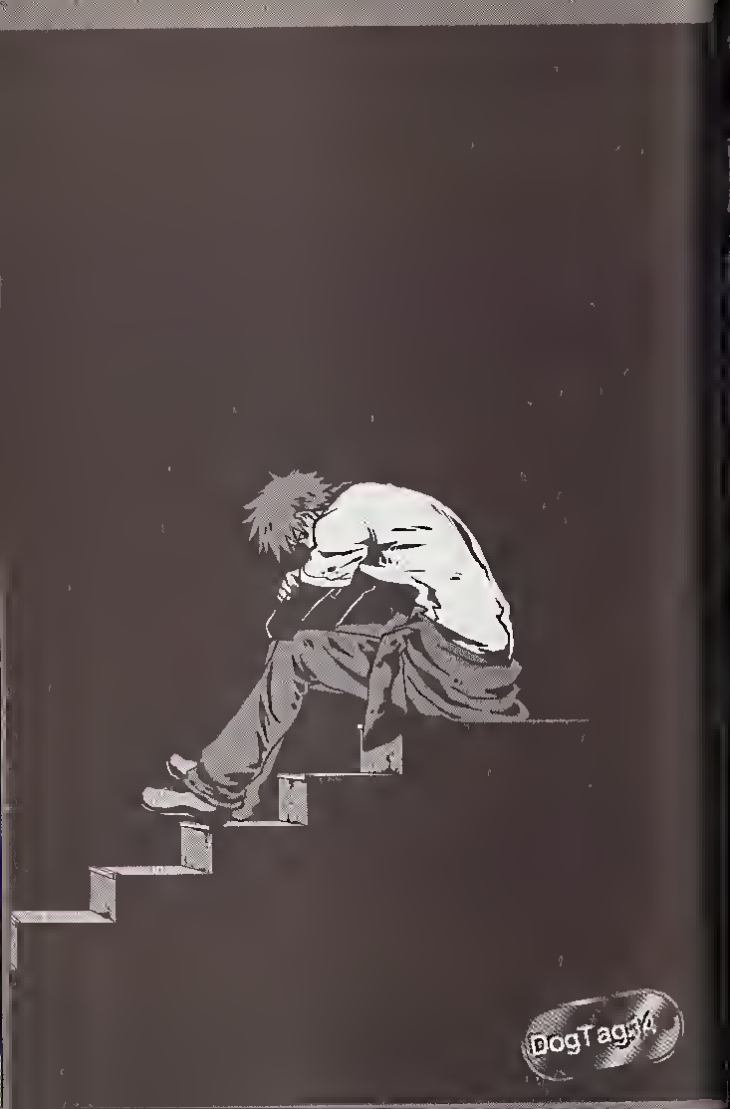

NO INCOMING MESSAGES. CAN I MAKE CALLS?
ACCESS DENIED. ALL OTHER PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN DISABLED.
SO THIS WAS FOR TRACKING ONLY. HUH?

I PROMISE I'LL FIND HIM.
HE'S TOO SMALL
AHH, I SHOULDA BROUGHT THE DOG.
IT'S TOO LATE NOW!!
YOU CAN'T FIND HIM WITH JUST THAT!!
NOT AS TALL AS ME, I THINK
WAS HE BIG??
HE HAD EYES AND A NOSE AND A MOUTH
REALLY? I'M SURPRISED YOU REMEMBER WHAT WAS HIS FACE LIKE?
Bird Brain Club
195cm
200cm
HIS HAIR WAS BLUE OR BLACK.
WE'RE NOT LOOKING FOR A BLONDE.
YEAH, BUT DOESN'T FATA LIKE 'EM SMALL?


AKIRA...
IT'S DANGER- OUS OUT THERE, SO JUST STAY PUT AND I MAY BE GONE FOR A WHILE.
ALL THE MORE IMPOR- TANT IF THERE'S IGURA MATCHES GOING ON
I PROMI- SED AKIRA THAT IF I FOUND YOU, I'D KEEP YOU HERE.
SORRY, BUT I CAN'T TAKE YOU WITH ME.

...GGH...
NGH...
...IIIIIIII...
...
...NNGGGH...
.....
AKIRA...
IT'D BE FASTER IF WE JUST BROUGHT IN EVERYONE WE CAUGHT WALKING AROUND, RIGHT?
YEAH, BUT IF HE'S A CORPSE, HE WOULDN'T BE WALKING, WOULD HE?
Gya ha!
"I CAN'T TAKE YOU WITH ME."
"YOU UNDERSTAND, RIGHT?"
"YOU KNOW HOW AKIRA FEELS."

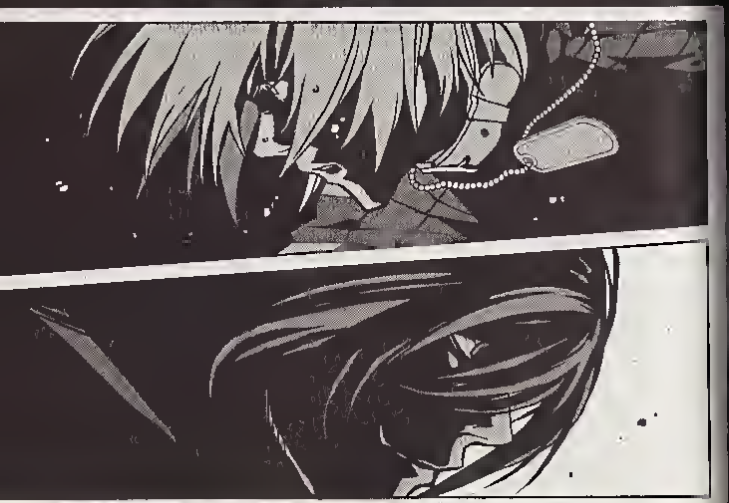
カツ TAP
カツ TAP
カツ TAP
SHIKI?!

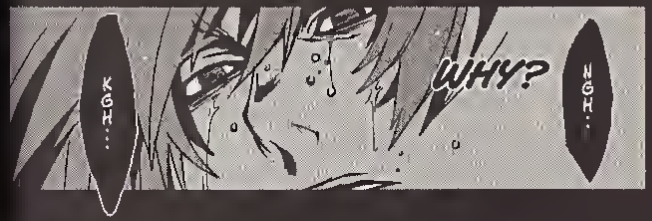

DogTag:14

AKIRA...!

THERE WAS NO ONE TO PROTECT ME.
BEFORE HE CAME, ALL I COULD DO WAS COWER AND TRY TO ENDURE THE PAIN.
I COULDN'T TRUST ANYONE. EVEN IF I WANTED TO, I DIDN'T KNOW HOW.
IF THEY DIDN'T MOCK ME, THEY'D JUST IGNORE ME.
BUT AKIRA WAS DIFFERENT.
BUT HOW?
I WANT TO HELP HIM...TO SAVE HIM.
I THOUGHT HE WAS SO COOL... HE WAS LIKE A HERO TO ME.
SOMETIMES HE WOULD STOP THE BULLIES AND SOMETIMES HE WOULD EVEN BEAT THEM UP.
HE "JUST DIDN'T LIKE IT."
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.

BUT AKIRA...
...HE SAVED ME.
THE OTHER KIDS WERE ALL SMARTER THAN ME, SO THEY USED TO BULLY ME FOR BEING SLOW.
EVER SINCE I WAS IN THE ORPHANAGE... I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT ANYTHING.



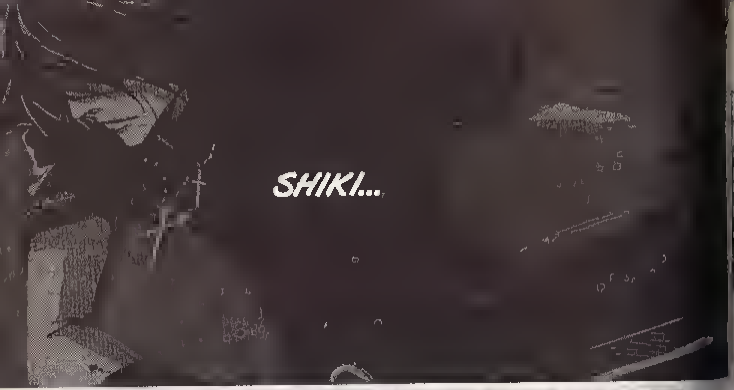


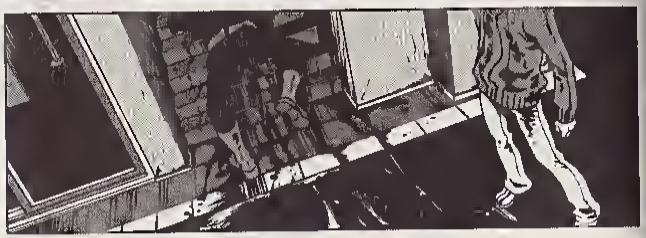
I...

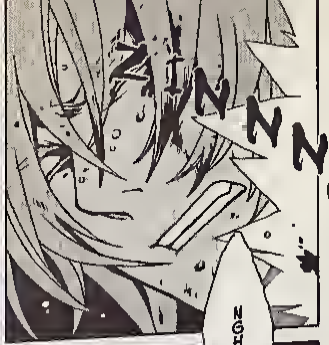
WHAT AM I?

SLASHHHH

SLASH
SHIT!!
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS!


SHIKI...

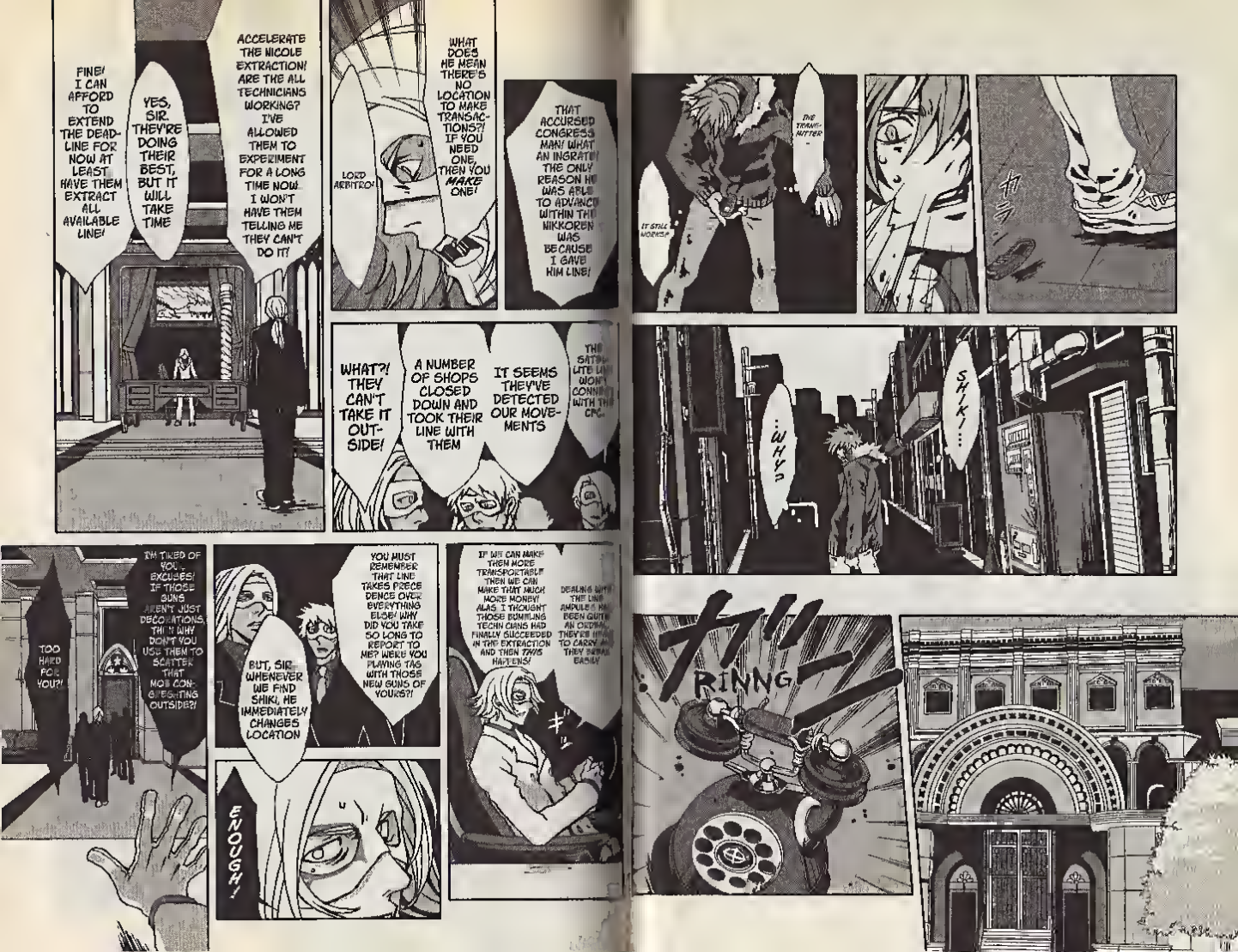


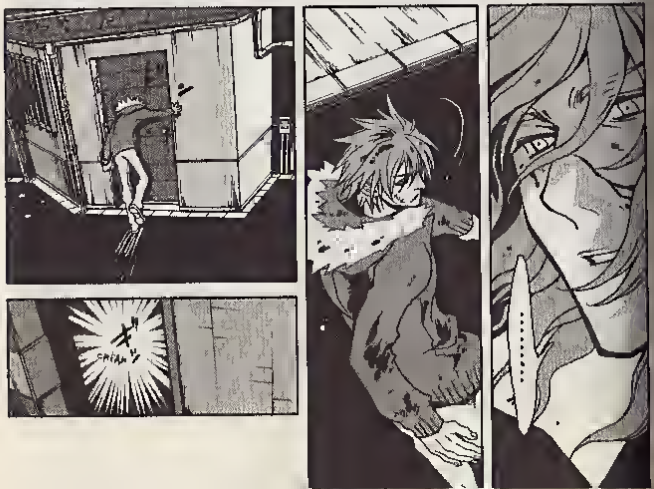

ZINNNG

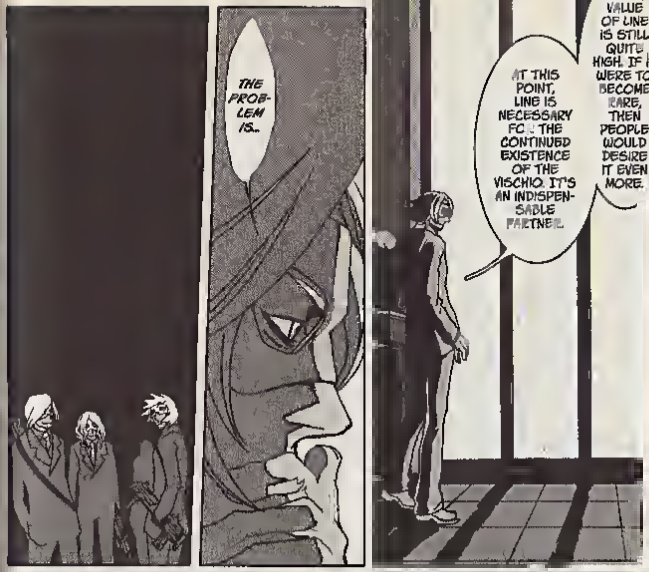
NGH...
NNH...

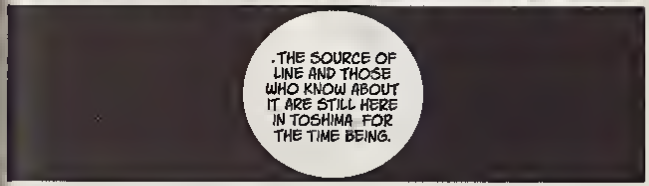
GASP!

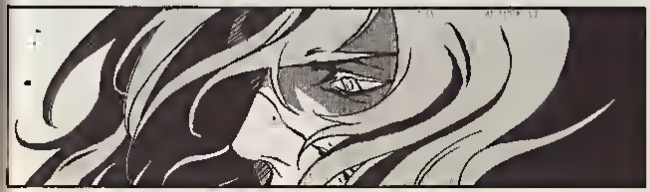
THUD

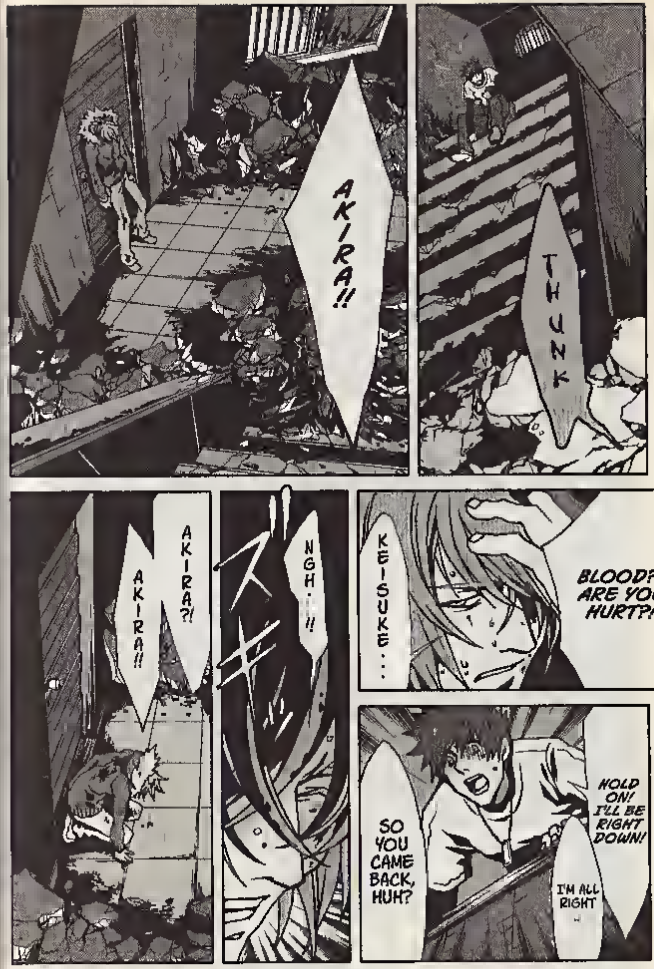

FINE! I CAN AFFORD TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR NOW AT LEAST. HAVE THEM EXTRACT ALL AVAILABLE LINE!
YES, SIR. THEY'RE DOING THEIR BEST, BUT IT WILL TAKE TIME
ACCELERATE THE NICOLE EXTRACTION! ARE THE ALL TECHNICIANS WORKING? I'VE ALLOWED THEM TO EXPERIMENT FOR A LONG TIME NOW. I WON'T HAVE THEM TELLING ME THEY CAN'T DO IT!
LORD ARBITER!
WHAT DOES HE MEAN THERE'S NO LOCATION TO MAKE TRANSACTIONS?! IF YOU NEED ONE, THEN YOU MAKE ONE!
THAT ACCURSED CONGRESSMAN! WHAT AN INGRATE! THE ONLY REASON HE WAS ABLE TO ADVANCE WITHIN THE NIKKOREN WAS BECAUSE I GAVE HIM LINE!
WHAT?! THEY CAN'T TAKE IT OUTSIDE!
A NUMBER OF SHOPS CLOSED DOWN AND TOOK THEIR LINE WITH THEM
IT SEEMS THEY'VE DETECTED OUR MOVEMENTS
THE SATELLITE LINE WON'T CONNECT WITH THE CPC.
DIE TRANSMITTER
IT STILL MOVES!
カラ
SHIKI!...
...WHY?
TOO HARD FOR YOU?
I'M TIRED OF YOUR EXCUSES! IF THOSE GUNS AREN'T JUST DECORATIONS, THEN WHY DON'T YOU USE THEM TO SCATTER THAT NON-CONFIGHTING OUTSIDER!
BUT, SIR. WHENEVER WE FIND SHIKI, HE IMMEDIATELY CHANGES LOCATION
YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT LINE TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER EVERYTHING ELSE! WHY DID YOU TAKE SO LONG TO REPORT TO ME? WERE YOU PLAYING TAG WITH THOSE NEW GUNS OF YOURS?!
ENOUGH!
IF WE CAN MAKE THEM MORE TRANSPORTABLE THEN WE CAN MAKE THAT MUCH MORE MONEY! ALAS, I THOUGHT THOSE BUMBLING TECHNICIANS HAD FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN THE EXTRACTION AND THEN THIS HAPPENS!
DEALING WITH THE LINE AMPULES HAS BEEN QUITE AN ORDEAL. THEY'RE HARD TO CARRY AND THEY SMASH EASILY!
カリーン
RINNG...

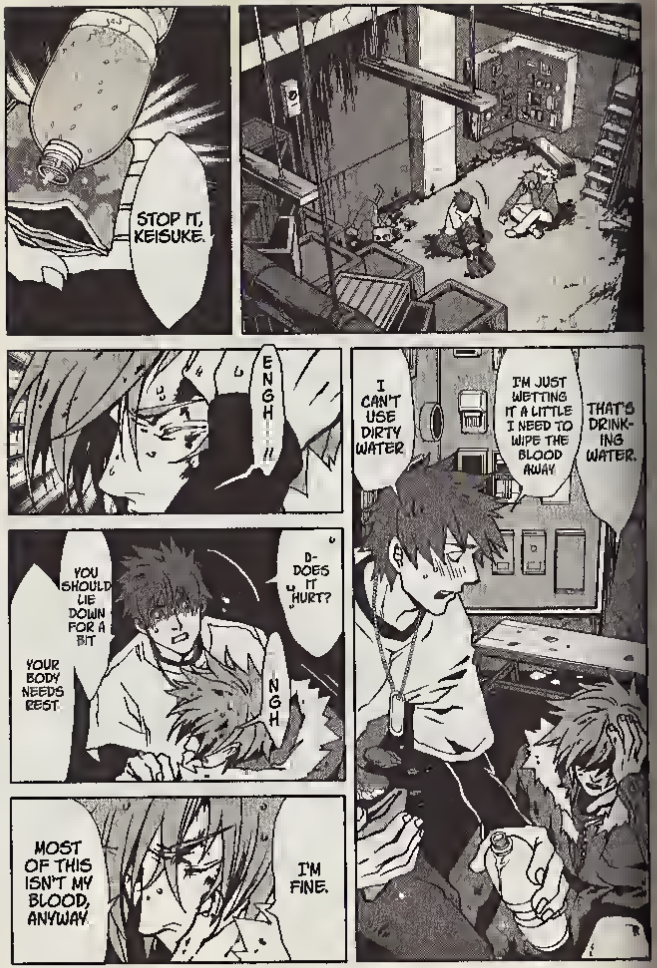

ギ
SHAA


THE PROBLEM IS...
AT THIS POINT, LINE IS NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE VISCHIO. IT'S AN INDISPENSABLE PARTNER.
THE UTILITY VALUE OF LINE IS STILL QUITE HIGH. IF IT WERE TO BECOME RARE, THEN PEOPLE WOULD DESIRE IT EVEN MORE.

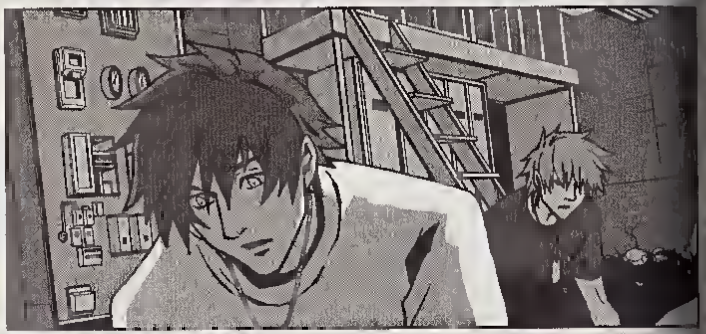

.THE SOURCE OF LINE AND THOSE WHO KNOW ABOUT IT ARE STILL HERE IN TOSHIMA FOR THE TIME BEING.

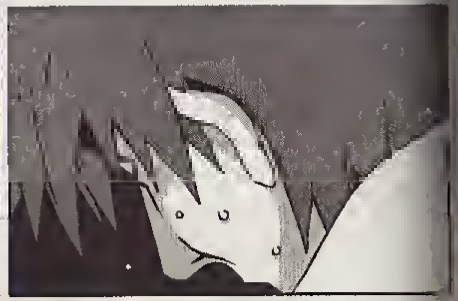


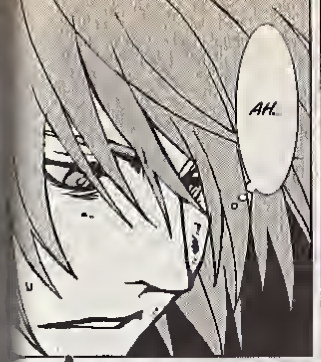

AKIRA!!
THUNK
AKIRA!!
AKIRA?!
NGH..!!
KEISUKE...
BLOOD?! ARE YOU HURT?!
HOLD ON! I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN!
I'M ALL RIGHT
SO YOU CAME BACK, HUH?

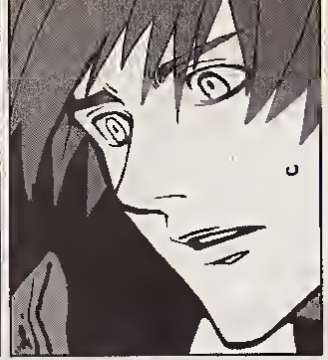

STOP IT, KEISUKE.
ENGH...!!
I CAN'T USE DIRTY WATER.
I'M JUST WETTING IT A LITTLE I NEED TO WIPE THE BLOOD AWAY.
THAT'S DRINKING WATER.
D-DOES IT HURT?
YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN FOR A BIT
YOUR BODY NEEDS REST.
NGH
MOST OF THIS ISN'T MY BLOOD, ANYWAY.
I'M FINE.

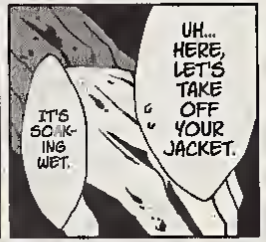
AH...






AH.

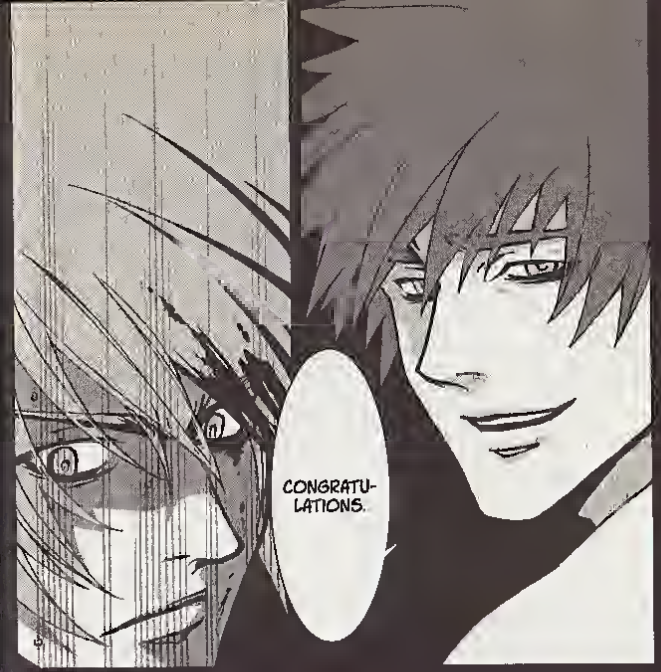


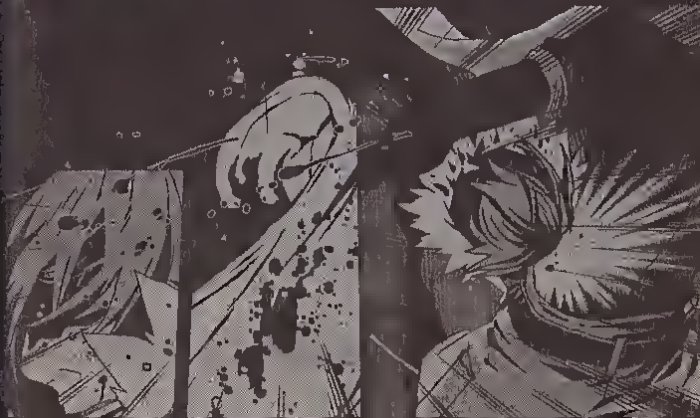

UH... HERE, LET'S TAKE OFF YOUR JACKET.
IT'S SOAK-ING WET.

I KNEW IT...YOU REALLY ARE AMAZING!

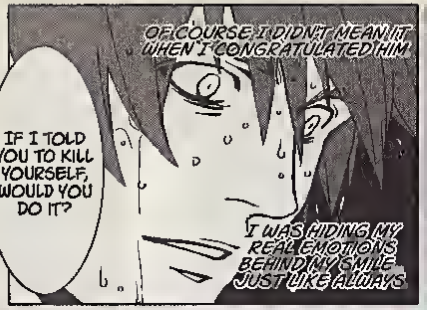
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
.....

FOR WHAT?
CONGRATULATIONS?


CONGRATU-LATIONS.



IF YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING, JUST GO AHEAD AND SAY IT!
AKIRA...?
YOU'RE DYING TO FIND OUT, AREN'T YOU?
YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW I KILLED MY OPPONENTS... DON'T YOU?!
!!!
IT'S OKAY... NEVER MIND.
DON'T SMILE
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SMILE ABOUT, ANYWAY?!
KNOCK IT OFF!
SHK SHANG

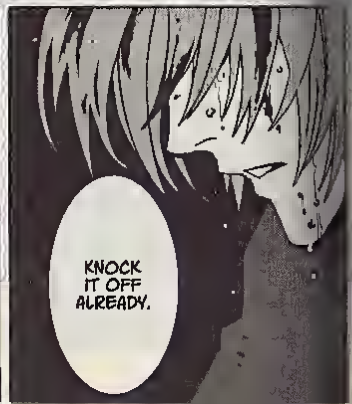

OF COURSE I DIDN'T MEAN IT WHEN I CONGRATULATED HIM.
IF I TOLD YOU TO KILL YOURSELF, WOULD YOU DO IT?
I WAS HIDING MY REAL EMOTIONS BEHIND MY SMILE JUST LIKE ALWAYS.

YOU THINK IT MAKES ME HAPPY WHEN YOU ALWAYS DEFER YOUR OPINION TO MINE?
WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF SUPPRESSING YOURSELF LIKE THAT?

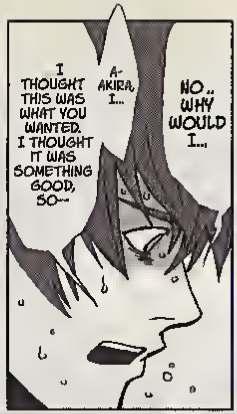
THAT'S ALL I AM.

PRAISE HIM.
WOULD YOU DIE IF THAT'S WHAT I WANTED?
SUPPORT HIM.
THAT'S ALL I COULD DO.

JUST LOOKING AT YOU PISSES ME OFF.


KNOCK IT OFF ALREADY.

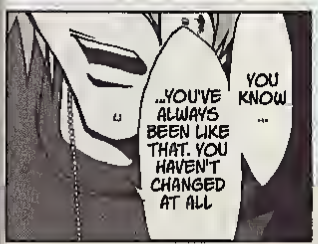
YOU THINK THIS IS WHAT I WANTED?

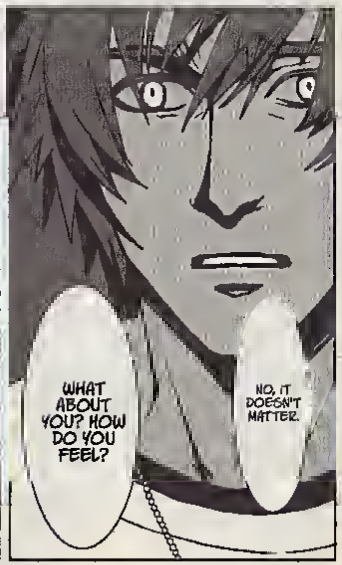

I THOUGHT THIS WAS WHAT YOU WANTED. I THOUGHT IT WAS SOMETHING GOOD, SO--
A-AKIRA, I...
NO.. WHY WOULD I...

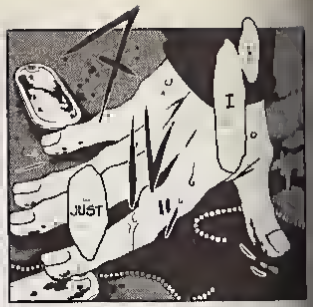
THEN ASK ME! GO AHEAD! IF YOU WANT TO BLAME ME, THEN JUST COME OUT WITH IT!
BLAME YOU?

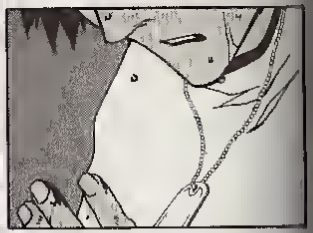
I NEVER HAVE.

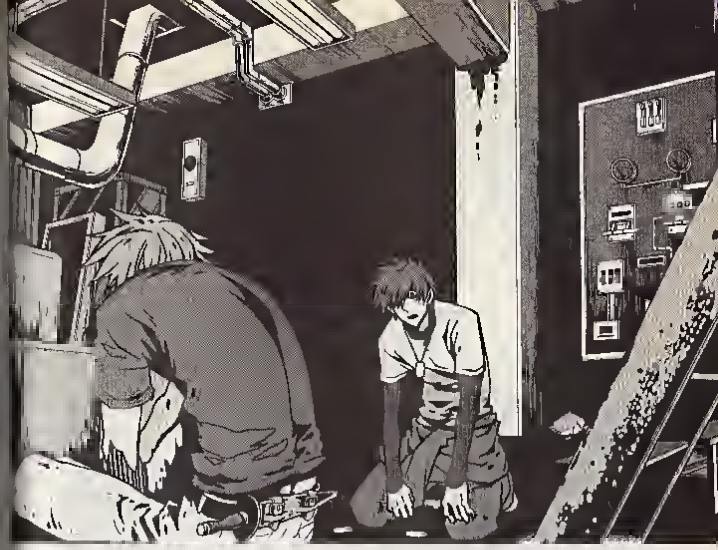
WHEN HE SAYS THAT, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO REPLY.

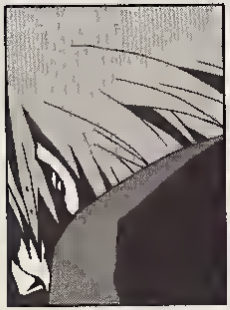

YOU KNOW ...
..YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT. YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL

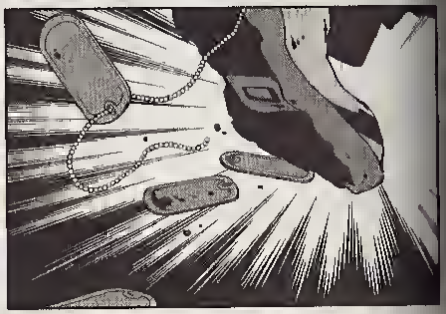

WHAT ABOUT YOU? HOW DO YOU FEEL?
NO, IT DOESN'T MATTER.

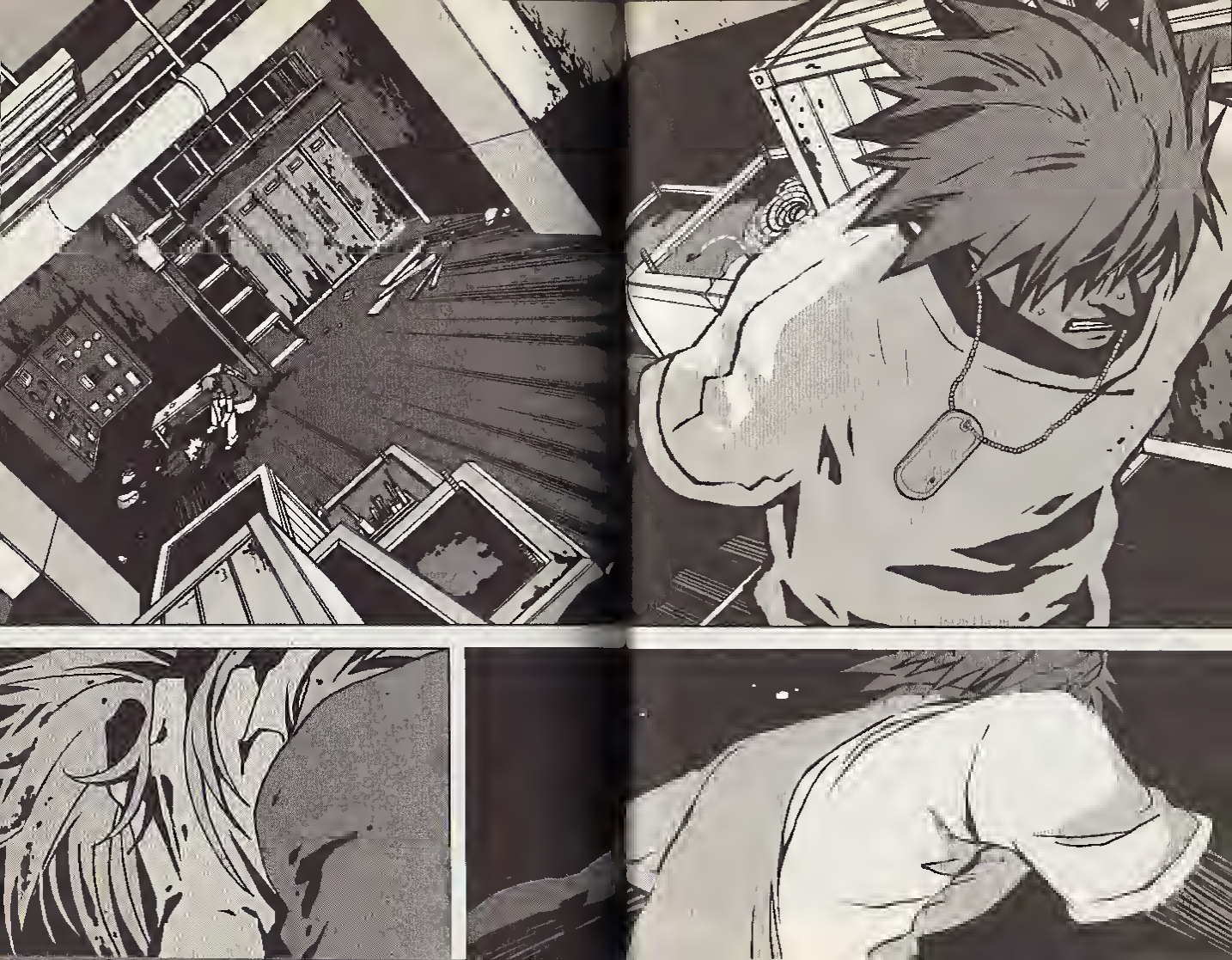

I
JUST



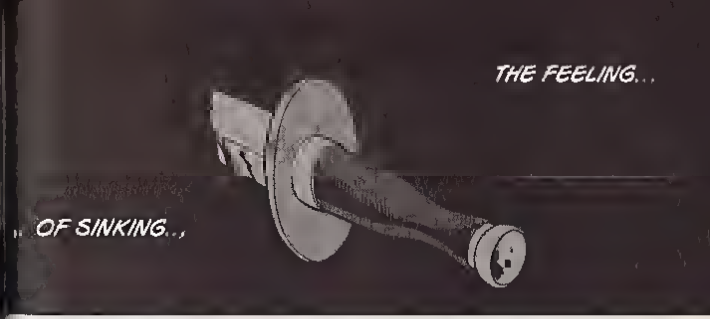






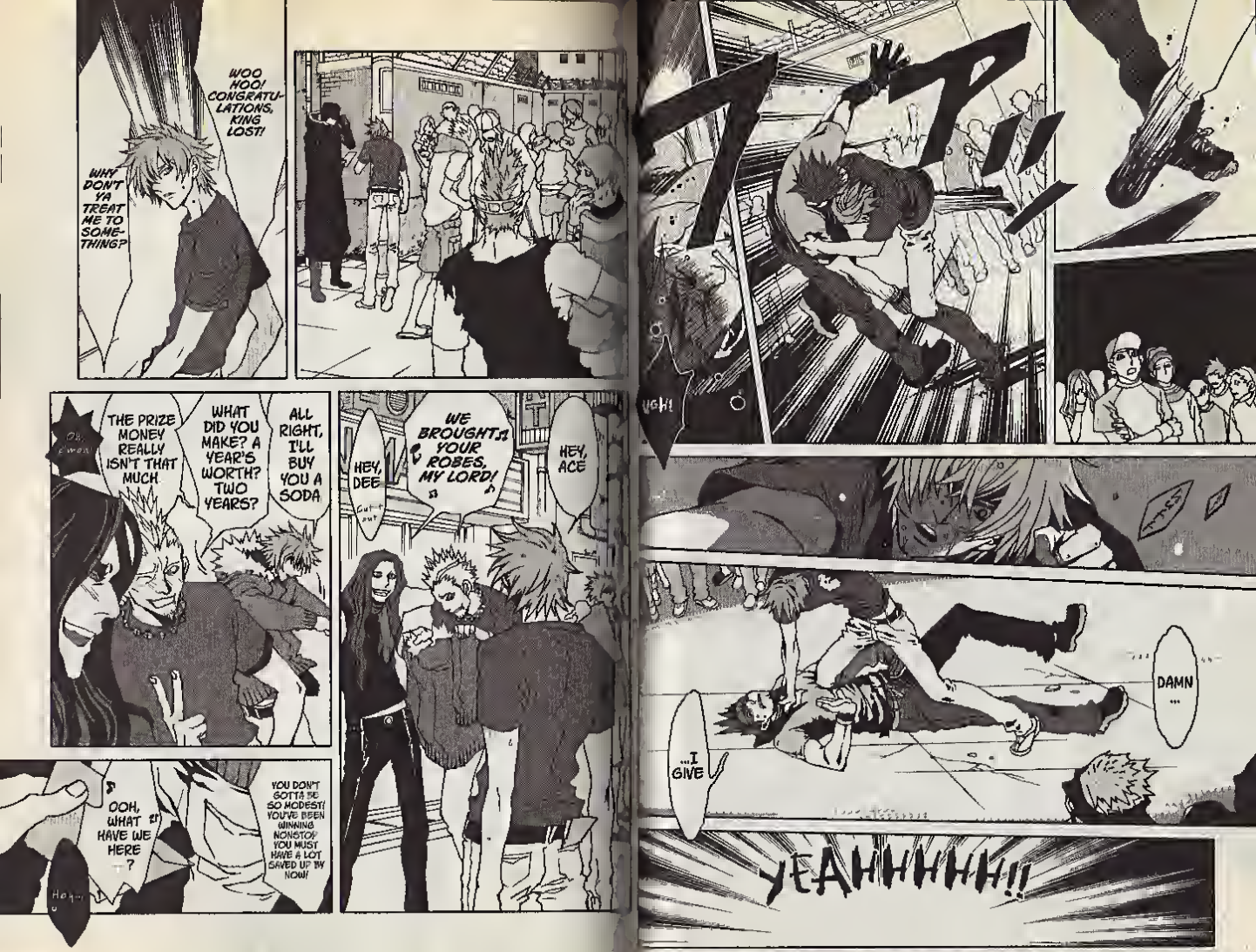


BL@STer
DogTag55


THE FEELING...
...OF SINKING...

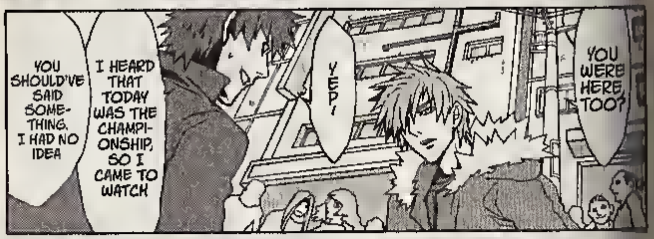
I CAN STILL...
...FEEL IT IN MY HAND.

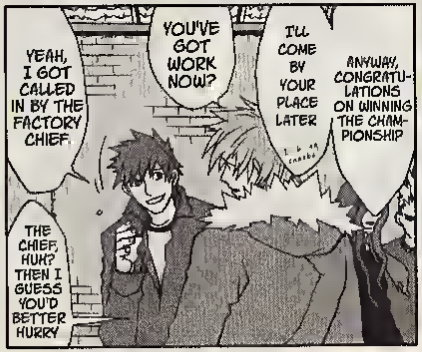
SLAM!!

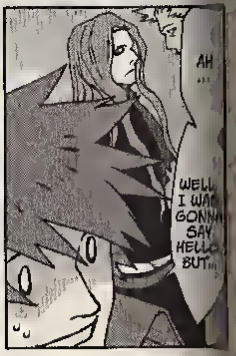

WOO HOO! CONGRATULATIONS, KING LOST!
WHY DON'T YA TREAT ME TO SOMETHING?
UGH!
DAMN...
...I GIVE
YEAHHHHH!!
HEY, ACE
WE BROUGHT YOUR ROBES, MY LORD!
HEY, DEE
ALL RIGHT, I'LL BUY YOU A SODA
WHAT DID YOU MAKE? A YEAR'S WORTH? TWO YEARS?
THE PRIZE MONEY REALLY ISN'T THAT MUCH
OOH, WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
YOU DON'T GOTTA BE SO MODEST! YOU'VE BEEN WINNING NONSTOP! YOU MUST HAVE A LOT SAVED UP BY NOW!

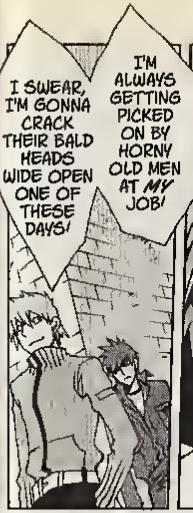
AH... HEY.

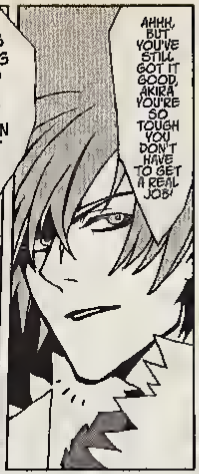
KE-SUKE?
!

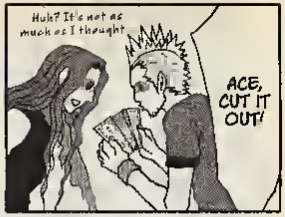

YOU SHOULD'VE SAID SOME-THING. I HAD NO IDEA
I HEARD THAT TODAY WAS THE CHAMPI-ONSHIP, SO I CAME TO WATCH
YEP!
YOU WERE HERE, TOO?

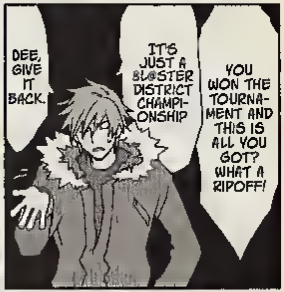

YEAH, I GOT CALLED IN BY THE FACTORY CHIEF.
YOU'VE GOT WORK NOW?
I'LL COME BY YOUR PLACE LATER
ANYWAY, CONGRATU-LATIONS ON WINNING THE CHAM-PIONSHIP
THE CHIEF, HUH? THEN I GUESS YOU'D BETTER HURRY

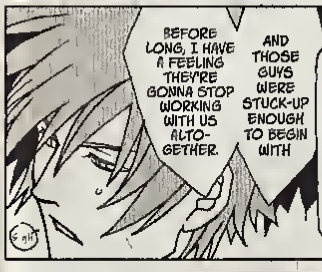

AH...
WELL, I WAS GONNA SAY HELLO, BUT...

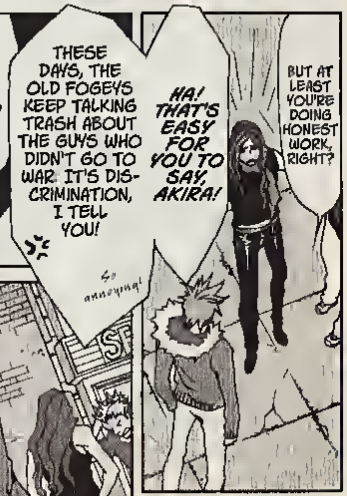

I SWEAR, I'M GONNA CRACK THEIR BALD HEADS WIDE OPEN ONE OF THESE DAYS!
I'M ALWAYS GETTING PICKED ON BY HORNY OLD MEN AT MY JOB!

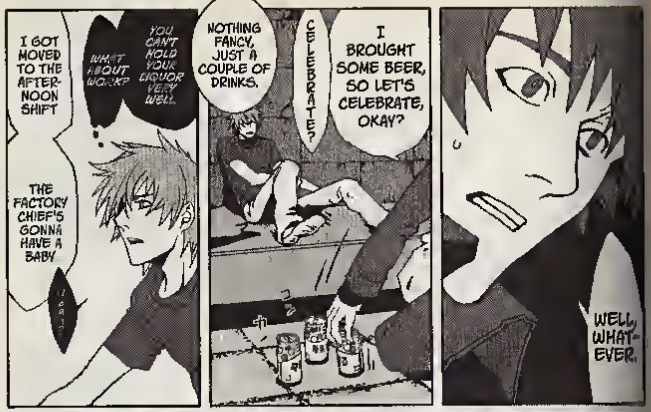

AHHH, BUT YOU'VE STILL GOT IT GOOD, AKIRA YOU'RE SO TOUGH YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET A REAL JOB!


Huh? It's not as much as I thought
ACE, CUT IT OUT!

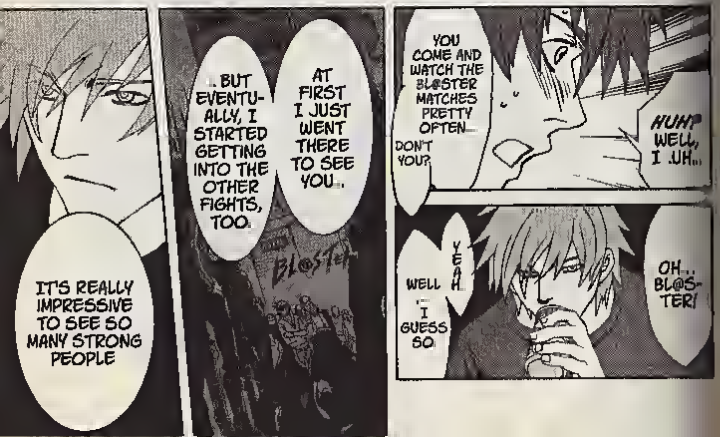

DEE, GIVE IT BACK.
IT'S JUST A BLOCSTER DISTRICT CHAMPI-ONSHIP
YOU WON THE TOURNA-MENT AND THIS IS ALL YOU GOT? WHAT A RIPOFF!

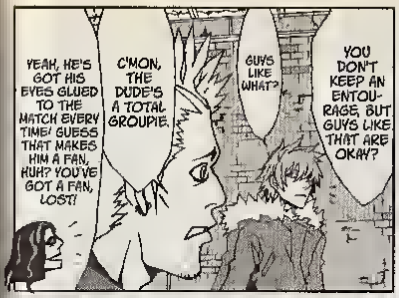

BEFORE LONG, I HAVE A FEELING THEY'RE GONNA STOP WORKING WITH US ALTO-GETHER.
AND THOSE GUYS WERE STUCK-UP ENOUGH TO BEGIN WITH

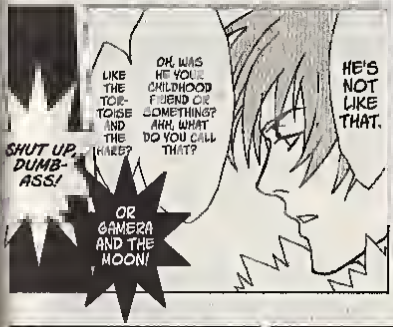

THESE DAYS, THE OLD FOGEYS KEEP TALKING TRASH ABOUT THE GUYS WHO DIDN'T GO TO WAR. IT'S DIS-CRIMINATION, I TELL YOU!
So annoying!
HA! THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, AKIRA!
BUT AT LEAST YOU'RE DOING HONEST WORK, RIGHT?


I GOT MOVED TO THE AFTER-NOON SHIFT
THE FACTORY CHIEF'S GONNA HAVE A BABY
WHAT ABOUT WORK?
YOU CAN'T HOLD YOUR LIQUOR VERY WELL
NOTHING FANCY, JUST A COUPLE OF DRINKS.
CELEBRATE?
I BROUGHT SOME BEER, SO LET'S CELEBRATE, OKAY?
WELL, WHAT-EVER.

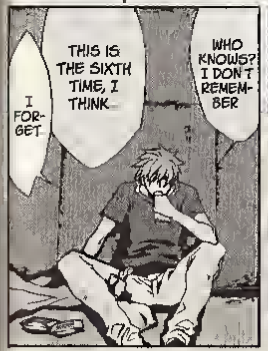
DO YOU LIKE WATCHING ME?


IT'S REALLY IMPRESSIVE TO SEE SO MANY STRONG PEOPLE
...BUT EVENTU-ALLY, I STARTED GETTING INTO THE OTHER FIGHTS, TOO.
AT FIRST I JUST WENT THERE TO SEE YOU...
BL@STER
YOU COME AND WATCH THE BL@STER MATCHES PRETTY OFTEN...
DON'T YOU?
HUH? WELL, I UH...
WELL... I GUESS SO.
YEAH.
OH... BL@S-TER!

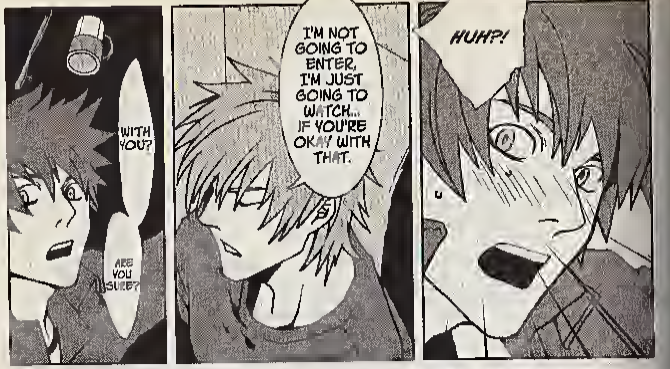

YEAH, HE'S GOT HIS EYES GLUED TO THE MATCH EVERY TIME! GUESS THAT MAKES HIM A FAN, HUH? YOU'VE GOT A FAN, LOST!
C'MON, THE DUDE'S A TOTAL GROUPIE.
GUYS LIKE WHAT?
YOU DON'T KEEP AN ENTOU-RAGE, BUT GUYS LIKE THAT ARE OKAY?

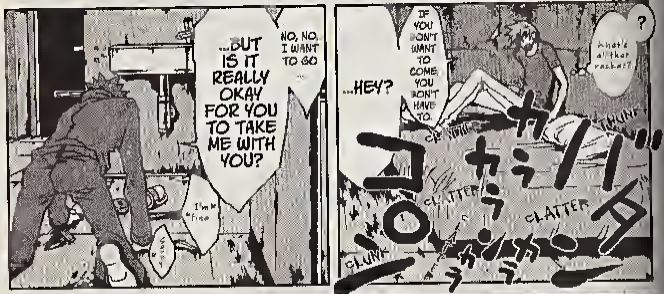

SHUT UP, DUMB-ASS!
LIKE THE TOR-TOISE AND THE HARE?
OH, WAS HE YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND OR SOMETHING? AHH, WHAT DO YOU CALL THAT?
HE'S NOT LIKE THAT.
OR GAMERA AND THE MOON!

HEY, AKIRA

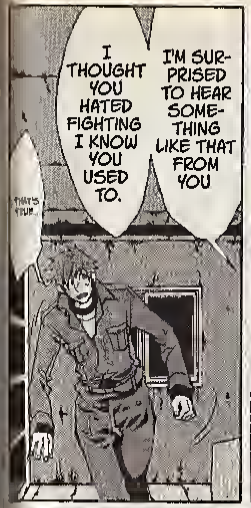

I FOR-GET.
THIS IS THE SIXTH TIME, I THINK...
WHO KNOWS? I DON'T REMEM-BER

HOW MANY TIMES IS IT NOW?


WITH YOU?
ARE YOU SURE?
I'M NOT GOING TO ENTER, I'M JUST GOING TO WATCH... IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT.
HUH?!

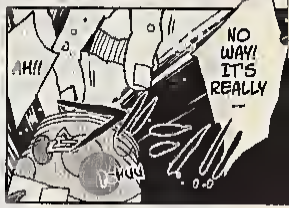

...BUT IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR YOU TO TAKE ME WITH YOU?
NO, NO. I WANT TO GO
...HEY?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO COME, YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
What's all that racket?
CLATTER
CLANK
I'm here

IT'S JUST A FIGHT. IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
I DON'T WANNA MAKE THINGS INCONVENIENT FOR YOU OR ANYTHING
INCONVENIENT?
WELL, YOU'RE THE CHAMP AND I DON'T KNOW ANYONE ELSE THERE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR SOMETHING LIKE THAT FROM YOU
I THOUGHT YOU HATED FIGHTING I KNOW YOU USED TO.
THAT'S YOUR...

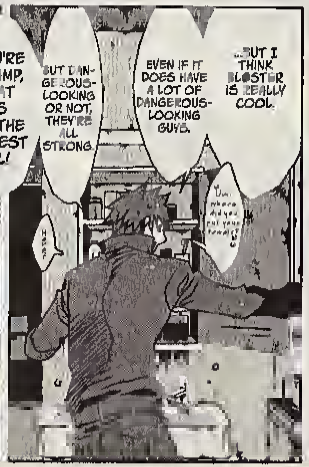
I MEAN, I USED TO THINK IT WAS NOTHING BUT A GLORIFIED STREET FIGHT, BUT...
G-sorry! I'm gonna borrow a towel!
AGAIN?

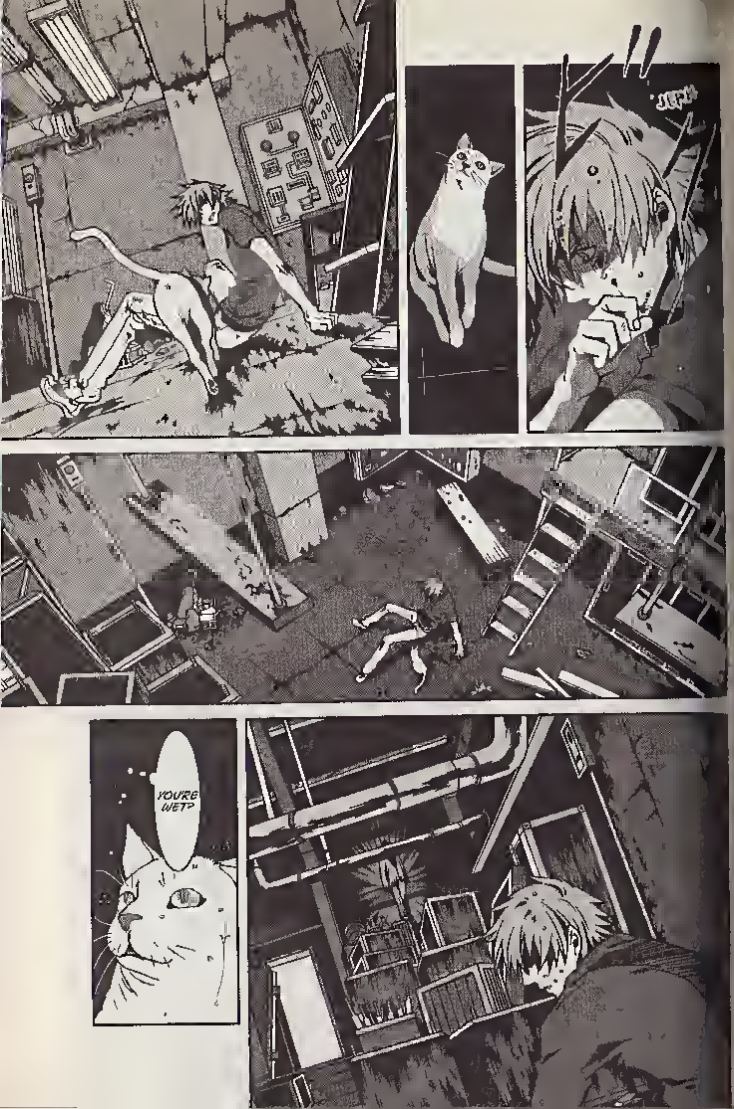
YOU'RE EXAGGERATING.
WH-WHAT?
YEAH

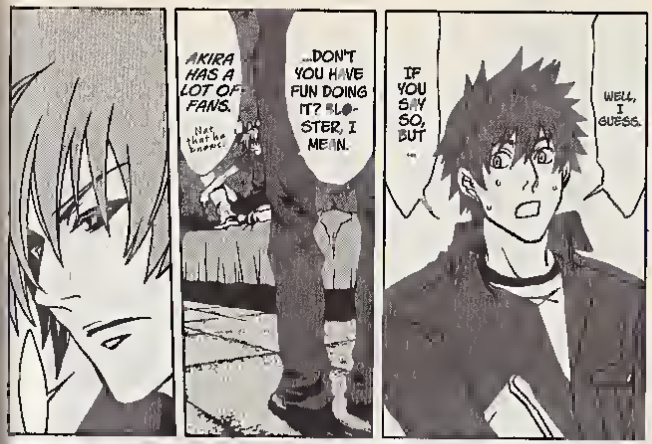

NO WAY! IT'S REALLY --
AH!!
D-WOW

BUT NO... REALLY, I THOUGHT IT WAS AMAZING!
WHATEVER YOU SAY
WILL YOU COME WITH ME TO THE MART TONIGHT

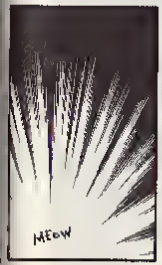
AND YOU'RE THE CHAMP, SO THAT MEANS YOU'RE THE STRONGEST OF ALL!


BUT I'M GORGEOUS-LOOKING OR NOT, THEY'RE ALL STRONG.
EVEN IF IT DOES HAVE A LOT OF DANGEROUS-LOOKING GUYS.
...BUT I THINK BLASTER IS REALLY COOL.
I'm where always, for your convenience
HAHA



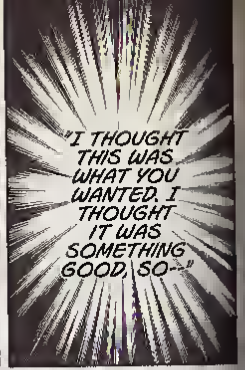


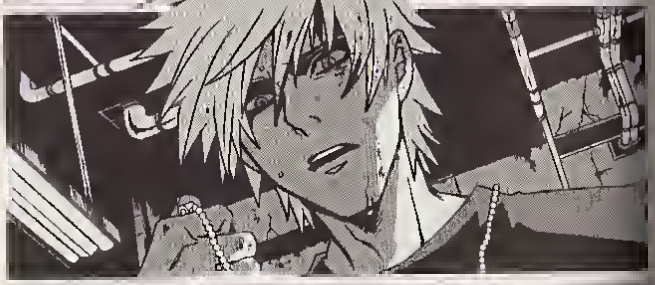
AT TIMES LIKE THAT, I FEEL AS LIGHT AS A FEATHER.
NOT REALLY. IT'S JUST A WAY FOR ME TO MAKE MONEY.
SOMETIMES, AFTER I FINISH A MATCH...
ALL MY FEELINGS OF FRUSTRATION GO FLYING AWAY.



THAT FEELING...

IS THIS..
...WHAT I WANTED?

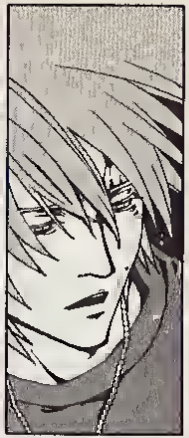

"I THOUGHT THIS WAS WHAT YOU WANTED. I THOUGHT IT WAS SOMETHING GOOD, SO--"



I UNDERSTAND NOW.

..OUT-SIDE?
IT'S RAINING..

...JEEEEEEE



HE'S SO CLUMSY.

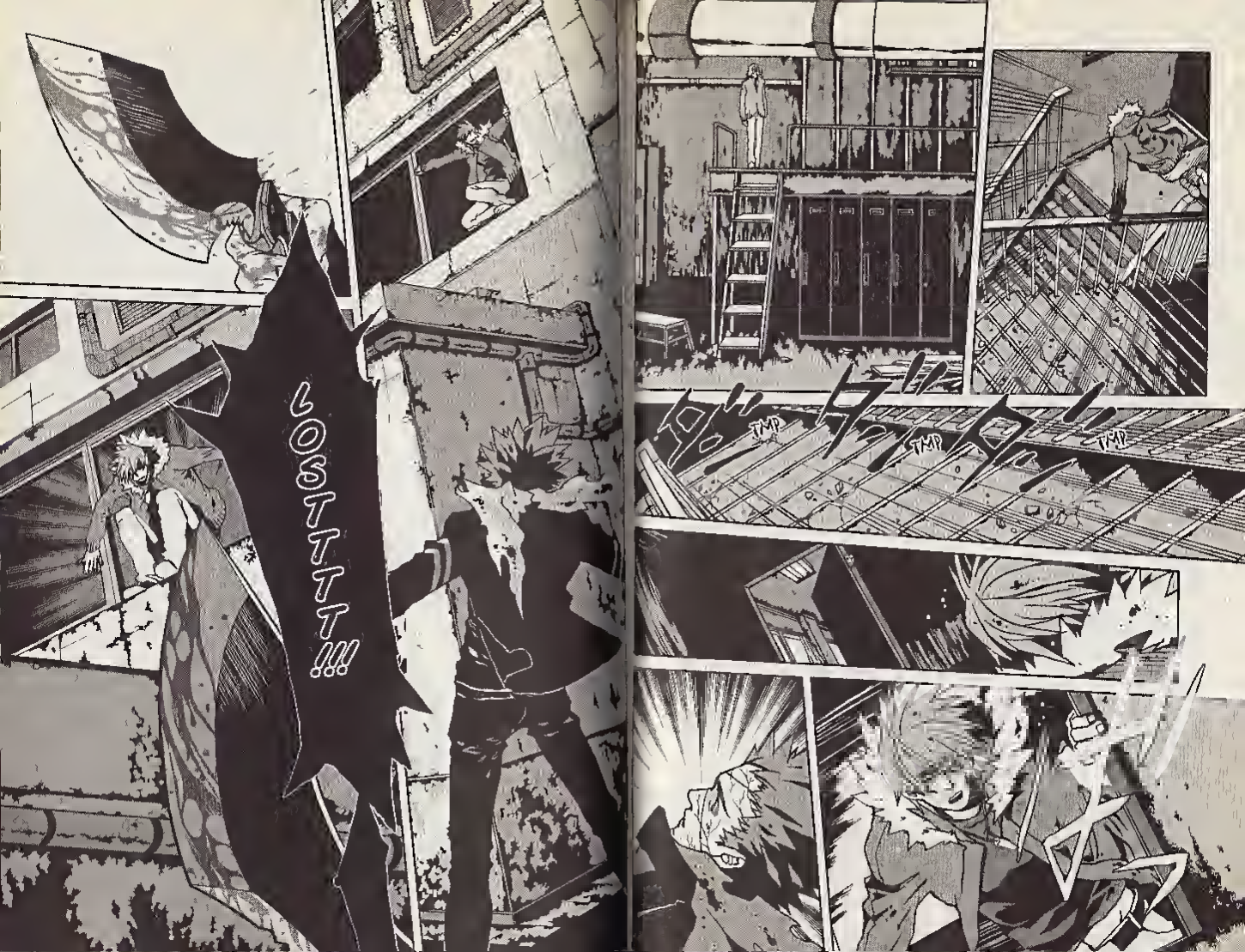
HE'S ALWAYS..
JING TE

HE DOESN'T KNOW THE MEANING OF SARCASM.

"CONGRATULATIONS."

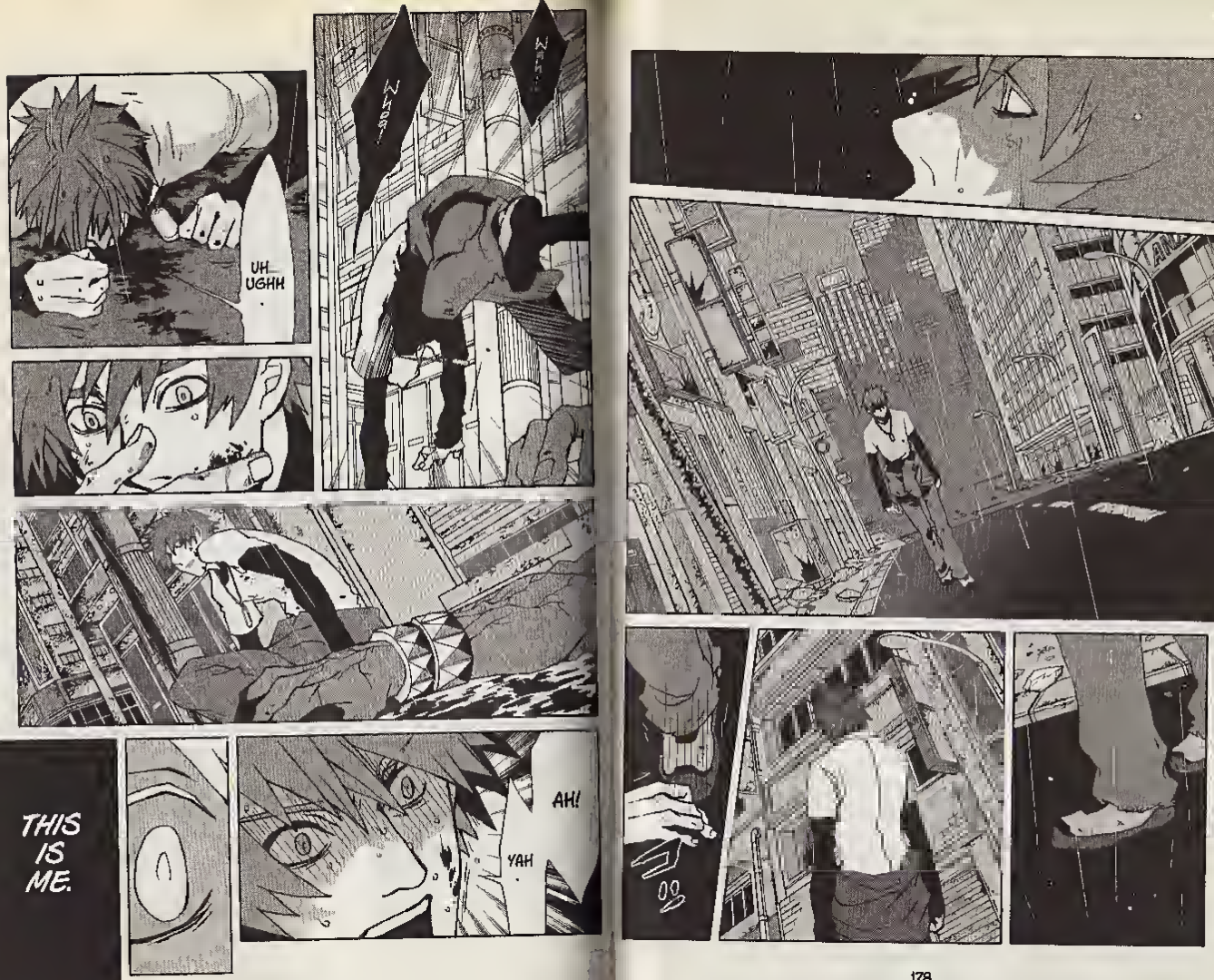
Hya ha ha!
THUMP
COME BACK!
GYA HA HA!
THE EXECUTIONER
HE CAN'T BE GOING AFTER...
Here, kitty kitty kitty!

I WAS JUST TAKING OUT MY ANGER ON HIM
I KNEW I WAS HURTING HIM
...BUT I DIDN'T STOP
KEISUKE...
AH


LOSTTTT!!!
TMP
TMP
TMP

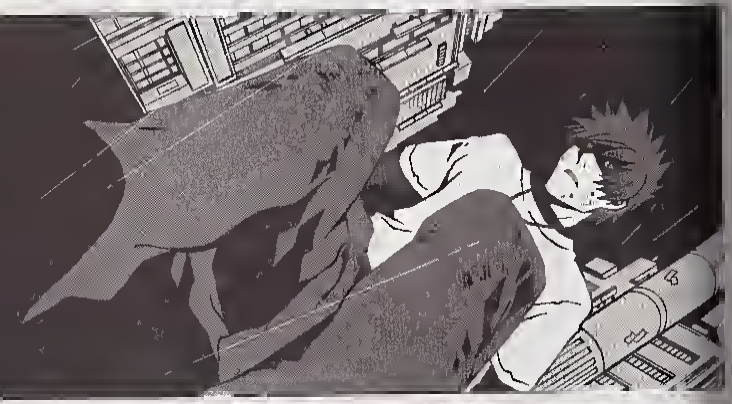
I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO REALLY BE AFRAID OF!!!
ギャリン…
SCARED?!
YOU NERV-OUS?!
HYA HA HA HA !!
LOOOOOST !!
THAT FACE OF YOURS HAS ALWAYS PISSED ME OFF!
LOOOOOST !!
I'M SO HAPPY TO SEEEE YOU!
I CAN FINALLY BEAT THE CHAMP!
AHH
IT MUST BE LINE!
HIS FACE IS...
SOME-THING ISN'T RIGHT.
I NEVER WOULDA FIGURED I'D CATCH YOU SLACKING OFF IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
THE MOVIE THEATER AND THE HOTEL, AND EVERY-YYBODY.. I SMASHED 'EM ALL!

NNAAAHHH?!!
HOLDING HANDS? ARE THEY GOING ON A PICNIC?!
For real?
LET ME GO!
H-HEY!
IS THIS... THE POWER OF LINE?
DAMN, HE'S STRONG.
NGH...
OH, YOU WANNA GO BACK AND DIE?
Hee Hee
BE MY GUEST!
THERE'S ANOTHER ONE?
HAHHH?
!!
AHHH.. WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS!
YOU ASSHOLES SURE ARE STUBBORN, AREN'T YOU?


UH... UGHH
WHH!
WINGS
AH!
YAH
THIS IS ME.

snicker
snicker
snicker
snicker
snicker
snicker
snicker

SINCE WHEN...?



AT FIRST...
...WHEN I TRIED TO TALK TO HIM, HE JUST IGNORED ME.

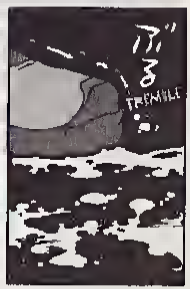
MY WEAKNESS...
...EXPOSED TO THE WORLD.

I COME ALL THE WAY TO TOSHIMA JUST TO DIE IN THE STREETS.

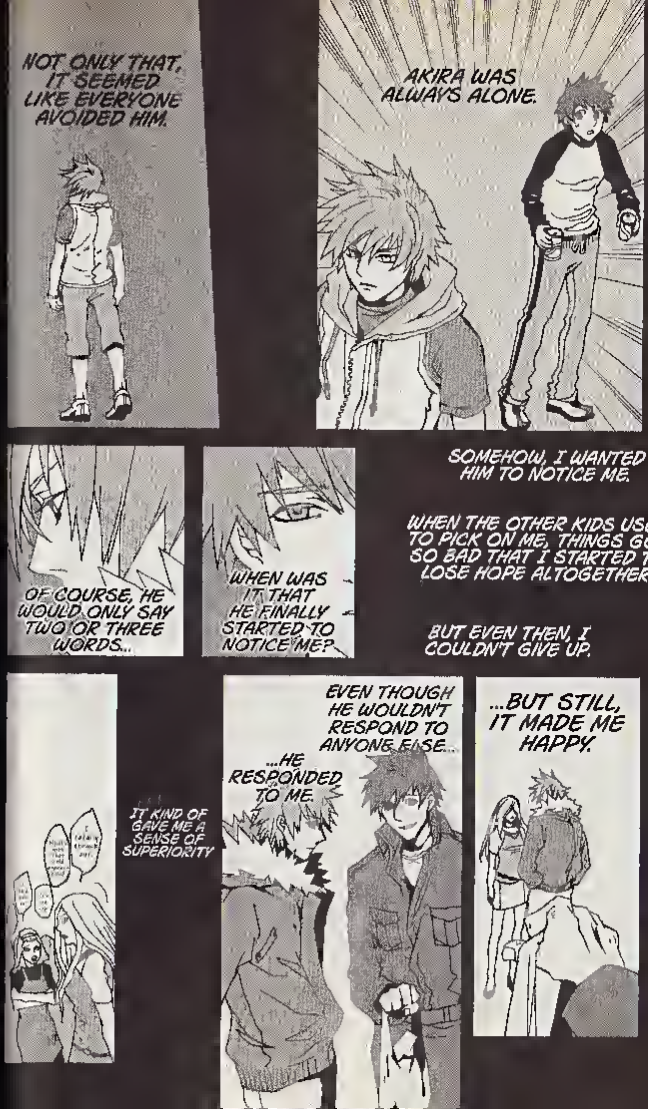
IT'S LIKE... I'M LOOKING IN THE MIRROR.

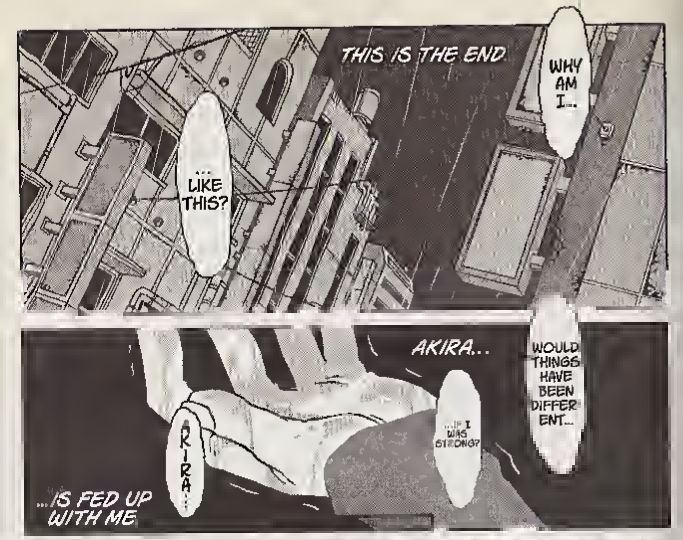
"JUST LOOKING AT YOU PISSES ME OFF."

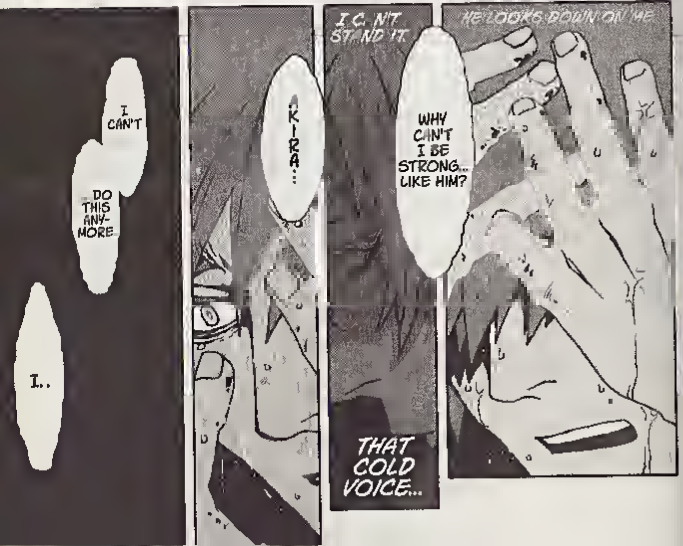
AKIRA...


TI" 3
FRIENDLI

I HAD SO MUCH FUN.
This one's strawberry
I got some raw Salid. I have Wasabi and Puna Flavor.
Uhh...
!!
BIT BY BIT, I STARTED SPENDING MORE TIME WITH HIM. BEFORE I KNEW IT, ALL THE PEOPLE WHO PICKED ON ME WENT AWAY.
AKIRA—
BUT...
...EVEN IF I HAD A SENSE OF SUPERIORITY, OTHER FEELINGS STARTED CREEPING IN AS WELL.
I DEVELOPED AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX.
I HATED MYSELF.


NOT ONLY THAT, IT SEEMED LIKE EVERYONE AVOIDED HIM.
AKIRA WAS ALWAYS ALONE.
SOMEHOW, I WANTED HIM TO NOTICE ME.
WHEN THE OTHER KIDS USED TO PICK ON ME, THINGS GOT SO BAD THAT I STARTED TO LOSE HOPE ALTOGETHER.
BUT EVEN THEN, I COULDN'T GIVE UP.
OF COURSE, HE WOULD ONLY SAY TWO OR THREE WORDS...
WHEN WAS IT THAT HE FINALLY STARTED TO NOTICE ME?
IT KIND OF GAVE ME A SENSE OF SUPERIORITY
EVEN THOUGH HE WOULDN'T RESPOND TO ANYONE ELSE...
...HE RESPONDED TO ME.
...BUT STILL, IT MADE ME HAPPY.



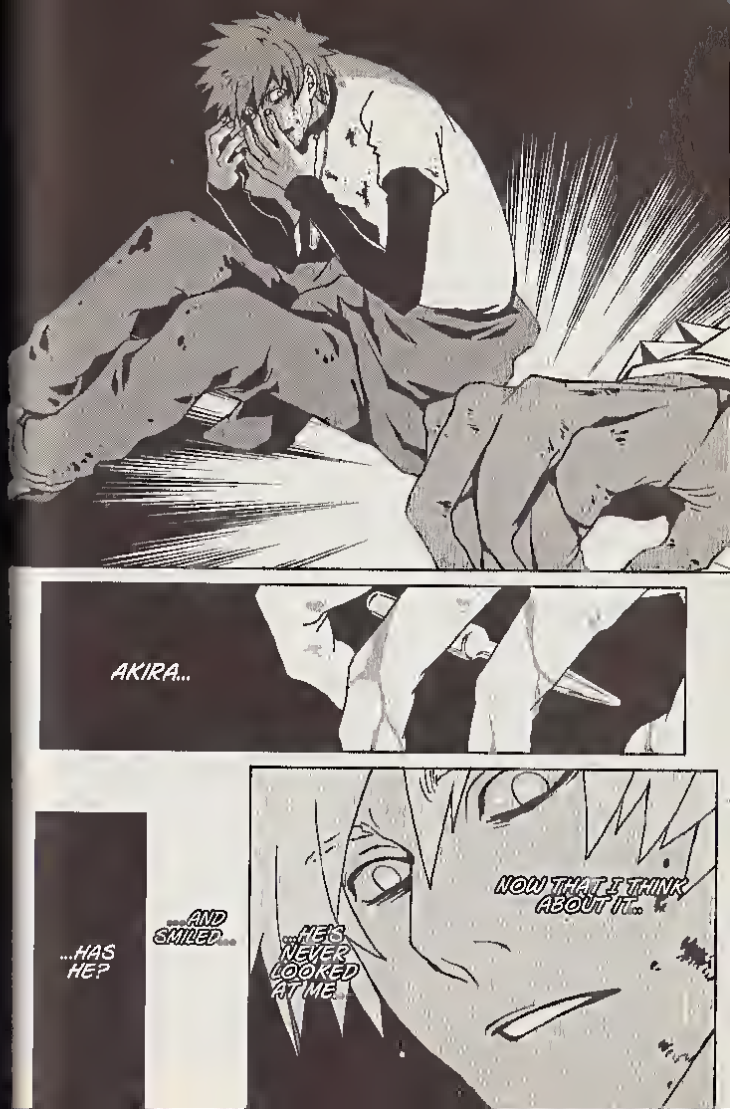


NO MATTER WHAT I STARTED, I COULD NEVER FINISH IT.

I ALWAYS HAD TO BE RESCUED BY AKIRA.

Feelings overflow...
and then they fall.

各狗の血



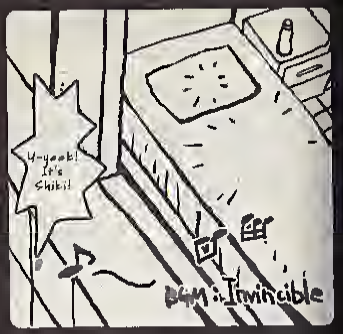
Staff thanx

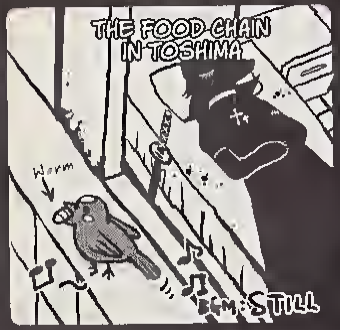
YOSHI, MOKKI, SATO, YAMANE
SASA, NAKAO, TABU,
HAZZE, KIDORA

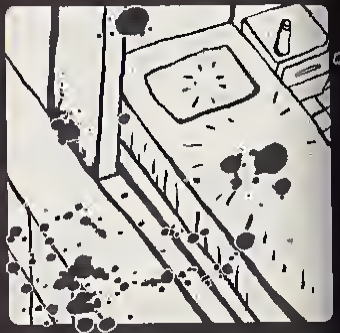
Sp thanx MY SP THANKX TO MY
BOOKSTORE SD BRANCH,
TORA NO ANA IN AKIHABARA

Editor thanX

KIMURA-SAMA,
TSUBURUYA-SAMA + SZ-SAMA

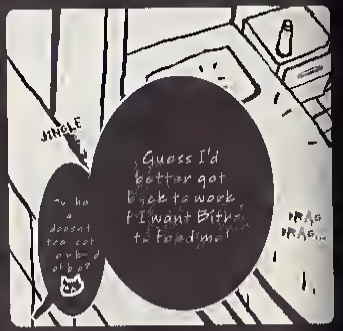


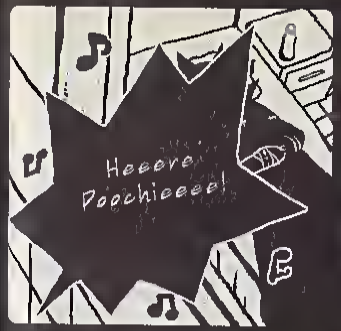


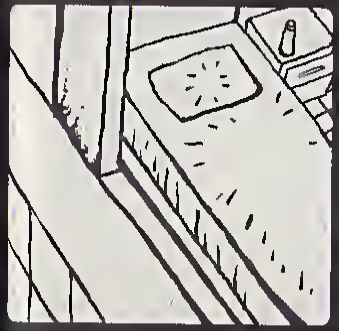


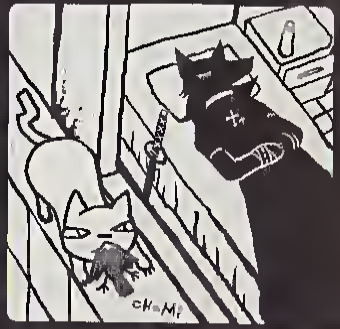
THANX

Nitro*KIRAL
UROBUCHI-SAMA,
CHIRAL-SAMA
FUCHII-SAMA,
TATANAKANA-SAMA
and You.









So there you are, Keisuke. You shouldn't wander around without telling anyone, you know.

Akira!!

B-but I did tell someone! I told Rin! And I told him to tell you! Didn't you hear?

I didn't hear anything.

▶ Just leave him alone
He'll come back here eventually (*3)

What? Hey, no fair! You can't select that option! Akiraaaaa!

The Lovey-dovey bath flag is 130 tags. Good luck!

You can't get that even on the PS2 version. (*4)

Leave it to me!

This bath knows no equal! It's a legendary tub with magical cat's feet passed down by the royal family for generations! Use it, and you'll get the Lovey-dovey ending for sure!

I, uh.. think you've got the wrong idea here.

But is all that stuff about the bath true?

C'mon, kid, have some sense! This is a bar in Toshima for goodness sake! How gullible can you get?!

Wha... Motomi?!!

Take my advice...if you activate this flag (*1) now, you'll regret it later. You don't wanna get the Bartender Ending, do you?

Motomi!!

Just because you're on the main route (*2) that doesn't give you the right to mess up the scenarios that I'm a part of!

(Huh? So is this the bad ending or something?)

Uh- well... anyway I think I'm gonna go look somewhere else

*1 Flag: A checkpoint in the game that puts you on a certain track. It can lead to a good or bad ending!
*2 Route: A track related to a specific character. It's a sweet but treacherous path! Make sure you choose the ending you want!
*3 A selection made from the Togainu no Chi PC game.
*4 Hurray! Togainu no Chi is out on PS2 as well!

Meal of Duty Consultation Room

Please enjoy this special extra, originally distributed during an autograph session on April 8, 2007.

A love story what?

I knew it! I sensed something the moment you first walked in. We both bear the same cross, you and I. In other words... we're kindred spirits.

C-cross? What cross? Kindred spirits in what?

We share the scent of forbidden passion, hiding behind our dense exterior! I won't give up until I win the game! Which boy's ending will I get? I'll get them to confess their love for sure, this time!

Wha...?

Please, just listen for a sec!

I just came here to ask where I could take a warm bath! Akira is hurt, so I'm afraid he'll get sick if he takes a cold shower.

Hey! Who's the impatient brat barging into my bar without permission?! I'm still putting on my makeup!

Huh? Y-you mean you haven't opened shop yet? But the sign outside says "open 24 hours."

Well, guess I'll come back later.

Oh, you're the little lamb who came in with Motomi, aren't you? The one with the weak presence! Are you lost? If you wait until I finish my makeup, I can give you directions.

Little lamb? Weak presence?

I-I'm not lost! Rin told me I could get some info from the bartender here. I had a question about--

Oh my! A love story flag!